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THE MONTROSE MIRROR

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Issue No. 263, March 12,

TRAINING TO SERVE & PROTECT: TECHNICAL COLLEGE OF THE ROCKIES Local academy meets law enforcement needs for 30 years



Police academy student Deanna Handler practices an arrest with a fellow classmate at TCR College Police Academy Friday. (Photo by Michael Lawton)

By Carole Ann McKelvey
Mirror Feature Writer

MONTROSE/DELTA – It is a place where heroes are made, and where those who are already heroes can sharpen their skills.

The Technical College of the Rockies Police Academy for 30 years has been delivering top-notch law enforcement graduates to local police departments. TCR is only one of three Technical Colleges in the State of Colorado and is one of 19 academies in Colorado.

Police Academy Director David Stassen guesses more than 700 police officers have graduated from the local law enforcement academy. Each semester from 12 – 20 students learn how to shoot, arrest, write reports, investigate and do everything else demanded of police officers.

[Continued pg 20](#)

COUNCILMAN BLASTS CITY RESIDENT FOR FLYING REBEL FLAG, CITY RECORDS AUDIENCE CONVERSATIONS @ LEAGUE FORUM

By Gail Marvel

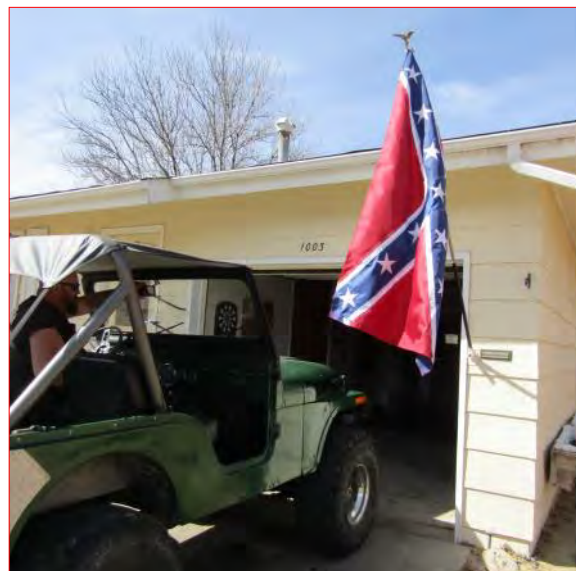
MONTROSE-Prior to the start of the council meeting Mayor Judy Ann Files told the audience she had watched the live-stream the of League of Women Voters candidate forum and that the audience microphones in the council chambers were on for 20 minutes before the forum started. Files cautioned the audience, "So, when you come to council don't say anything before the meeting." Being privy to private audience conversations she laughed and said, "It was interesting."

Call For Public Comment For Non-Agenda Items

People wishing to speak to council on non-agenda items are given three-minutes to talk. The council does not respond to the call for public comments. However, as was the case in this meeting, toward the end of the meeting the staff and council did respond to some of what was said in the call to the public when they gave staff reports and had council discussion.

Four people spoke during the call for public comment:

[Continued on pg 5](#)



City Councilor Dave Bowman denounced the owner of this Montrose home from the dais during a televised Council meeting last week and shared his address, because of the Confederate flag shown here.

in this
issue

*Gail Marvel's
Houses of Worship!*

*Art Goodtimes'
Up Bear Creek!*

*Rob Brethouwer
On Classical Music!*

*Carole McKelvey's
Rocky Mt. Cravings!*

*Chris Larsen talks
About mental illness!*

ANSWERING THE CALL: PATROL OFFICER PATRICK DEMERS

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-Montrose Police Department (MPD) Patrol Officer Patrick Demers was content and acclimated to living in the Boston area and attending college — that was until he met his future wife who was a Kansas girl intent on moving to Colorado. After graduating in 2005, Demers worked for district attorneys in both Massachusetts and the Front Range of Colorado. “It was a big leap of faith and a huge risk for me to leave, but I feel more at home here than in Boston.”

While in college Demers was attracted to law enforcement when the Chair of the Criminal Justice Department became his mentor and helped him secure an internship in the district attorney’s office. “I worked with attorneys and state police and after working with prosecutors for 10 years I decided police work was what I wanted.”

Rather than being sponsored by a law enforcement agency, Demers, who was living in Loveland at the time, put himself through a metro-area Police Academy. “My wife was an ER nurse and we knew when we had a family she would be a stay-at-home-mother, so I needed a good job.” While the academy itself wasn’t difficult, the winter commute was long, “Because of the driving conditions it took me two hours [one way] just to make sure I arrived on time.”

Demers has worked for MPD since 2015, and along with patrol duties he is a training officer for new recruits. He is a member of the Bike Patrol and participates in

the Bike Rodeo, “I also do the Alcohol Server Training class and I’m in the middle of advanced training for Accident Reconstruction.”

Generally speaking, Demers feels the most stressful part of his job is seeing the best and the worst of the human experience; “We see substantial pain, suffering, death, poor choices, mental illness.

Part of our job is empathy and dealing with that as part of our duty routine takes a lot out of you.” Vicarious trauma, sometimes called compassion fatigue, describes the emotional toll associated with the exposure to the client’s traumatic experience. Demers said, “It means a lot to us to have such a supporting community in Montrose. People take time out of their day to say thank you.”

For Demers the most enjoyable part of his job is, “The science of conducting interviews and putting the pieces of the investigation together. Building cases.” The years of working in the DA’s office made him know the importance of cohesive reports, “I don’t mind reports. Details are important. The work on the street is all for naught if you don’t put it in a good report.”

Demers considers his ability to listen and

Officer Patrick Demers



HIRED 01-05-2015

Montrose Police Dept. Patrol Officer Patrick Demers. Courtesy photo.

relate to people as his strength, “Plain and simple, I am a citizen, a husband, a parent. That helps me relate to others in those roles.”

An event in 2017 earned Demers an MPD Life Saving Award, “A citizen collapsed in the teller line at a bank. It [the award] was pretty humbling for me, something that had never happened before.”

When ask if there were anything he’d like readers to know Demers said, “Know and respect the officers. Our people have families and children and they are affected when we walk out the door.”

As for interests and activities outside of law enforcement Demers laughed and said, “I have three kids under three years of age...I don’t have a lot of time for hobbies. I’m a terrible fly fisher and an aspiring woodworker.”



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MEDC MEETING TOUTS MONTROSE GROWTH



By Carole McKelvey

Photos by Michael Lawton

MONTROSE-Keynote speaker Stephanie Copeland (left) praised Montrose citizens and leaders Friday during the annual meeting of the Montrose Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) at the Montrose Pavilion March 9. Copeland is director of the Office of Economic Development and International Trade for the State of Colorado.

Joining her in praising recent developments in Montrose, such as the new Recreation Center and upcoming Montrose County Events Center, was Buck Miller, chair of the MEDC.

During the catered luncheon by Stone House Restaurant, the MEDC named Montrose School District RE-1J Superintendent Steve Schiell (right, shown with Sandy Head, MEDC executive director), recipient of the 2018 Economic Development Award for his efforts to pass a bond issue that is being used to rebuild Columbine Middle School.



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CITY COUNCILMAN BLASTS CITY RESIDENT From pg 1



Horsefly Brewing Company owners Melanie and Phillip Freismuth attended a liquor license hearing for their new establishment, Phelanies. The speakeasy bar will be located at 19 South Junction and will have an alley entrance. Photo by Gail Marvel.

Andrew Beard

Beard spoke at the Feb. 20th council meeting and returned to this meeting with a more forceful petition for council to act on school safety. Beard said, "We do not have the luxury of time. The issue is escalating and very real." Beard reported on the approximately 700 people who attended the school district meeting on March 5th and on a newly established social media site that is generating community discussion — keepmontrose-kidssafe.org. Beard said, "We are holding elected officials responsible."

Beard referenced a meeting he had with Councilman Roy Anderson, "Councilman Anderson said there is a possible tax increase that might be coming in November that may assist in funding for law enforcement and road maintenance." Beard went on to say that it would be irresponsible to wait for a year to take action, "Your constituents demand action, not six-months from now, not a year from now, but now."

Sidebar on a tax increase proposed for November.

Neither the City Council, nor the City Staff, have publicly discussed a tax increase for the November ballot. A tax increase has not been an agenda item at work sessions, council meetings or in general discussion.

Councilman Anderson's comments to this one citizen show discussion has taken place amongst council members and staff and reveals a lack of transparency.

Nola Paul

Paul petitioned council to consider bringing a COSTCO into the community. "We need a COSTCO...a lot of our money is bleeding into Grand Junction. We need these tax dollars here."

Duane Redmond

Redmond, who organized the Community Christmas Tree in 1996, has been gone from the community for about 10 years. He has now moved back to Montrose and is concerned about the condition of the tree, specifically the lighting and the tree topper. Redmond said, "I've tried for three months to meet with Bill Bell [City Manager]. It won't cost the city anything, but I need a ride up in a bucket truck." Redmond hopes to stimulate community interest and involvement, "I'll continue to try to contact Mr. Bell. Time is of the essence because of the fund raising I need to do and to see the condition of the tree."

Jesse Bielak

Bielak is the manager of the hospital ICU and wanted to back-up Andrew Beard's comments on school safety. Bielak spoke to council as a father, "It's clear that this is a concern for everyone in the community.

It's become apparent that our community has outgrown what law enforcement can do. As a community we are paying attention to the decisions your guys are making and the way funding is being channeled."

New Tavern Liquor License Application – Assistant City Attorney Andrew Boyko.

The basic intent of a liquor license hearing is to discover if there is the need for another liquor establishment in the community and if the applicant understands the State liquor laws. The applicant did not submit a petition with signature of support.

Horsefly Brewing Company owners Melanie and Phillip Freismuth applied for a liquor license for a new establishment, Phelanies. The speakeasy bar will be located at 19 South Junction with an alley entrance behind Area Best Pawn & Loan.

After answering questions from Boyko, the Freismuths described the new establishment, their involvement with the community and their other establishments — Horsefly, the golf course establishment and two locations at the airport.

Council was given the opportunity to ask questions and Councilman Dave Bowman, who regularly uses the dais as a promotional and self-promotional venue, asked the owners to reiterate their history in the business, their impact on the community, the number of establishments they own, the number of employees they have, the music component, etc.

Councilwoman Barbara Bynum asked about the parking situation, "It's probably not relevant to a liquor license." Freismuth responded the Area Best parking lot would be used and that the hours of both businesses would not conflict with one another.

Bowman said he was honored to make the motion to approve the new liquor license. Approved unanimously.

South Hillcrest Extension and Sanitary Sewer Construction Contract Award – City Engineer Scott Murphy.

Murphy said, "This is three projects rolled into one. The [Hillcrest] extension, widening sidewalks and a new sewer line."

Staff recommended awarding a construction contract to Williams Construction in

CITY COUNCILMAN BLASTS CITY RESIDENT *From previous pg*

the amount of \$2,196,311.67 and the award of a survey and design support contract to DOWL in the amount of \$92,590. Approved unanimously.

Cerro Reservoir Outlet Replacement Design Contract – City Engineer Scott Murphy.

Murphy said, “This is the design process. The outlet is undersized and at the end of its service life. This is a very high-risk job and they [RJH Consultants] are the most qualified.”

Staff recommend awarding a design contract to RJH Consultants in the amount of \$270,181.82 for the permitting and civil design of the Cerro Reservoir Outlet Works Replacement Project. Approved unanimously.

Banner Road Property Lease Renewal – Director of Innovation and Citizen Engagement Virgil Turner.

The Banner Road property, formally used for sludge taken from the wastewater treatment plant, is no longer needed. The property is listed for sale; however, it is currently being leased by Jon Jessor.

Turner said, “He is working the land for us.” Turner recommended renewing the lease.

Approved unanimously.

Staff Reports:

Public Information Report – City Manager Bill Bell.

Heidi’s Forum will host a City Council Candidate forum.

Bell brought up the issues of community safety and the recent community school district meeting with more than 700 attendees, “It was good to be there in an informal capacity.” Bell talked about the

collaboration between the school district, the Montrose Police Department (MPD) and the Montrose County Sheriff’s Office (MCSO), “Our police department is doing a great job to be as proactive as possible. We take threats seriously and address them in a timely manner and handle them in an appropriate manner without emotion, and we do that as we would any other type of community crisis that we are dealing with.” Bell cited social media as fueling the problem. “We ask for patience as we work through some of the details. Overall our role as a city and city police department is to offer support to the school district...we’re here as a technical resource to support them. It’s [school safety] not a city problem or a county problem...it’s a law enforcement problem...we’re trying to support the schools.”

Background information: *There was a time when city council had a measure of authority over the Chief of Police position. However, the current city council recently amended the City Charter and gave their authority to the city manager.*

The role of city council is to make policy and approve the annual budget, which sets funding for the Montrose Police Department (MPD).

City Council Comments:

With great fanfare Councilman Bowman announced he will unveil his Summer Music Series at the Horsefly Brewery on one of their tap nights. He referenced the community school district meeting, “The two main ideas are to make our kids *feel* safe and to *make* our kids safe.”

Bowman then went on a diatribe; “I was driving my six-year-old grandchild to

school...” The councilman proceeded to publicly reveal the homeowner’s address, “I was absolutely appalled to see a Confederate flag hanging from in front of that house. That house is within half a mile of Columbine Middle School. We know it’s his First Amendment right. Certainly, if it’s someone’s right to hang a Confederate flag, why not hang a swastika? COME ON MONTROSE!” Bowman cautioned parents to avoid the intersection in order to protect their kids from seeing the flag. “To have my six-year-old grandchild see a Confederate flag flying in the town he loves, that’s ridiculous!”

The other four members of city council remained silent and did not support or defend Bowman’s outburst, but neither did they support or defend the resident targeted by Bowman.

Councilman Dave Bowman is running unopposed for the district II seat in the upcoming April election.

The youth council representative reported on the upcoming Teen Opportunity Expo (TOE)

City Manager Bell reported on youth baseball registration, “Opening day is May 12th. We’re trying to put together a competitive softball league.” The cost for recreational softball is \$125 - \$135. Bell said, “We don’t want to turn anyone away so there is opportunity to apply for scholarships.”

Mayor Files gave appreciation to the MPD school resource officers. Bowman then called for a round of applause for the resource officers. The video of the hour-long March 6th city council meeting is available on the city web site.

The Mirror: many views, one newspaper.



REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE WOMEN'S CLUB FLEA MARKET APRIL 7 @ FRIENDSHIP HALL

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Don't miss the Montrose Women's Club Flea Market, April 7th, 8 am-4 PM, Friendship Hall, Montrose County Fairgrounds; 100+ tables; antiques; coins; jewelry; handcrafted items; tools and more.; "Drawing for Charity." Free admission; Vendor spaces, contact Lexy at 970-275-3336.





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COMMUNITY SHOWS UP FOR SCHOOL SAFETY MEETING



Students and family members listen as Montrose County School District Officials discuss safety at the community meeting March 5.

Story and photo by Dianna Beshoar

MONTROSE-A community-wide school safety meeting was called to order promptly at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 5th, by Montrose County School Board President Tom West. West introduced the District's Superintendent Stephen Schiell. "Wouldn't it be nice if we weren't here for this topic?" said Schiell.

The "we" were concerned community members who were able to join the Montrose County RE-1J School Board and administration for the discussion of school safety at the Lloyd McMillan Gym. Members of local law enforcement stood near the red fitness pad with the Montrose Indians emblem.

Schiell reported the solutions talked about at last week's safety meeting: officer training; more mental health services; employ a school resource officer (SRO); allow districts to arm staff. Ideas to improve security included lock all doors; create a single entry with a metal detector; full-time security guard at single entry door; volunteers, no backpacks or clear backpacks and closed campuses.

Schiell highlighted security ideas currently active in the schools including drills, Safe-to-Tell programs, a school resource deputy on site, and cameras.

tions to address the attendees. Roughly 18 males and 15 females, ranging from high schoolers on up, approached the podium. The time to share was limited to two minutes.

Safety solutions addressed the need for respect; better communication; funding; parent involvement as necessary in their children's lives; adult involvement in the schools as parents; administrators, teachers, security guards and peace officers; limiting exposure to violent media; allowing concealed weapons to be carried in the schools; and self-defense training.

A Montrose High School graduate said, "I was bullied."

Two high schoolers said they want armed security guards and something needs to change.

Comments from parents included, "Our community is going to stop this; If you're not talking to your kids every night of the week, you're screwing up. Let's invest our time."

"I'm responsible for my kids. I teach them respect. That's my job."

Teachers also spoke: "I want the option to do more than to hunker down and hope for the best."

"Don't use the word 'bullying' and 'the District needs a common language.'"

"It's not that we've been sitting around and doing nothing," said Schiell. "We've been doing lots."

Of the nearly 1,500 gathered, Schiell said "We're going to hear you. We're going to hear you. We want to hear you."

Schiell asked speakers to walk down from their bleacher seats by sec-

One speaker said, we have a "social media problem . . . It's our turn to get to where they (our children) are and interact with those faces."

"A big thing to look at is hatred" said another, after stating "guns are fine." Then the speaker said "We need people to raise their kids (to be) responsible, respectful, respect the law. Get our kids' phones out of their faces and we'd be a lot better off."

Other suggestions included supporting veterans to be in schools; building a curriculum imbued with teaching self-esteem and respect; teachers should not have to also have to be peace officers; more pay for teachers; parents, administration and peace officers should be present in the schools.

One speaker said "None of these things on that list (of Superintendent Schiell's reported solutions) have been done. I hear we can't afford it. We have a brand-new rec center, a new event facility being built, a new amphitheatre. Why can't we defend our kids?"

Another said "Be proactive, not reactive. Let's get something going now."

West again approached the podium. The community had been heard. He said comment sheets were available for written suggestions outside the gym.

After the meeting I spoke with City of Montrose Police Officer Beery about the officer training mentioned by Superintendent Schiell. In mid-April, Officer Beery, Officer Booth and Officer Jones will have ALICE (alert, lockdown, inform, counter, evacuate) training. ALICE, said Officer Beery, is a corporation that does training for law enforcement and corporate security. "The training will allow us to train," he said. Once the three officers return, they will be ready to train school personnel and the community said Officer Beery. Two Montrose County Sheriff's officers are scheduled to receive ALICE training in late March said Officer Beery.

The open cardboard suggestion box outside of the Lloyd McMillan Gym had at least thirty comment sheets layered inside before I dropped in mine.

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

2018 TRIBUTE TO AVIATION: SALUTE TO WOMEN IN AVIATION

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE- Montrose Regional Airport is proud to announce the theme of the 2018 Tribute to Aviation, Women in Aviation. In its fourth year of existence, this popular event features both military and civilian aircraft on display from around the country.

"This year's theme reflects the important work that women have had in the advancement of aviation," said Aviation Director Lloyd Arnold. "The airport is proud to bring this event to the community for its fourth year and the event planning team is looking forward to incorporating women in aviation into this year's event."

This year's Tribute to Aviation is Sept. 15 and 16 at the Montrose Regional Airport. Event organizers are looking at additional entertainment for this free, family event. Historically, the event boasts a crowd of more than 20,000 attendees to the airport. In 2017, more than 50 aircraft and 150 pilots and crew members descended on Montrose for a weekend of aviation awe, education, and fast cars.

For more information, please visit tributetoaviation.com. Announcements concerning the 2018 aircraft line-up will be posted to [facebook.com/tributetoaviation](https://www.facebook.com/tributetoaviation).

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MONTROSE, OURAY COUNTIES COOPERATE ON PORTION OF DAVE WOOD ROAD



The March 8 BOCC meeting lasted less than 30 minutes.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE- Held on Thursday rather than the usual Wednesday meeting time, [the March 8 meeting](#) of the Montrose Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) lasted less than 30 minutes.

There were no citizen comments.

With Commissioner Glen Davis absent, BOCC Chair Keith Caddy and Vice Chair Roger Rash approved the Consent Agenda as well four general business items and four planning and development items.

First to be approved was the Chairman's signature on the [Victims' of Crime Act](#)

(VOCA) grant amendment through the Division of Criminal Justice (1/1/18-12/31/20) for the Montrose County Sheriffs' Office (MCSO).

Second to be approved was a [Facilities/Maintenance contract closeout](#) in the final retainage amount of \$4,600 to Ridgway Valley Enterprises for completion in 2017 of the Airport Re-roof West Project.

"I went out and talked to Lloyd and the staff,

the roof seems to be fine, it's not leaking, and they are very happy with it," Commissioner Roger Rash said.

Commissioners approved two public works items; the first was the [purchase of wireless column mobile lifts](#) from low-bidder Auto Parts of Montrose in the amount of \$52,980. The bid amount is less than the 2018 budgeted expense of \$68,000, the agenda notes. "These are for the mechanic shop in Nucla," County Engineer Keith Laube said.

Also approved were an [Intergovernmental Agreement \(IGA\)](#) and a [Memorandum](#)

[of Understanding \(MOU\)](#) between Montrose County and Ouray County. Under the terms of the one-year agreement Montrose County will maintain seven miles of the Dave Wood Road.

"We have a section of Dave Wood Road that leaves Montrose County, enters Ouray County, and then goes back into Montrose County," Laube said. Ouray County will reimburse Montrose County for providing general maintenance with its share of the 2018 Highway User Tax Fund money received for that section of roadway (estimated to be \$22,940.)

"It helps the public in the long run," Rash said. "They have a hard time getting their blade all the way up there; ours is already there...this is a win-win for both our county and their county, and it's actually saving money in the long run."

Planning and Development items approved included the [Black Canyon Apothecary Minor Subdivision](#) proposal to divide 21 acres into two lots; the [Sherlene Minor Subdivision](#) proposal to divide 6.359 acres into two lots; the [Wilson Farms Subdivision](#) proposal to divide a 4.543-acre lot from a 47.308-acre parcel; and the [Geomancer Minor Subdivision](#) proposal to divide 10.549 acres into two lots.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.



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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

DO YOU KNOW FAIR HOUSING IN COLORADO?

Special to the Mirror

COLORADO-The housing market in metro Denver, and all across Colorado, is tight. If you find yourself looking for a new place to rent, lease or buy in this crowded and competitive market, be sure that you know your civil rights as it relates to housing.

The Colorado Civil Rights Division (CCRD), which investigates charges of discrimination related to housing, employment and public accommodations, recognizes National Consumer Protection Week with this reminder: In Colorado, discrimination based on a person's protected class(es) is illegal in housing.

The Colorado Anti-Discrimination Act (CADA) prohibits housing providers, property managers, homeowners associations, real estate developers, housing lenders and any other businesses or persons involved in housing transactions from engaging in unfair housing practices.

CADA defines protected classes, and with housing specifically, these include: Race, Color, Disability (mental and physical), Sex, Sexual Orientation (including Transgender Status), National Origin/ Ancestry, Religion, Creed, Marital Status, and Familial Status (families with children under the age of 18 and/or pregnant women). People are also protected from retaliation for engaging in protected activity.

Should you find yourself in a situation where you believe that you are being discriminated against based on a protected class, file a complaint. You can start the filing process online through our CaseConnect webportal. Before you file, take note of filing deadlines.

For more information about your civil rights and CCRD, visit askdora.colorado.gov. Find more consumer tips and resources during National Consumer Protection Week by following #NCPW18 and #GetWiseCO.








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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

MONTROSE WOMEN'S GIVING CLUB DONATES \$14,700 TO PARTNERS



(Pictured in the photo from left to right: Susie Schulz (Partners), Curtis Hearst (Partners), Leah Hearst (holding baby Bode) (Partners), Lissette Riviere (Partners), Julie Wolverton (Giving Club), Sue Hansen (Giving Club). Courtesy photo.

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-During their first quarterly meeting of 2018, the women of The Giving Club collected \$14,700 and voted to donate it to Partners Mentoring, a non-profit serving Delta, Montrose, and Ouray. Partners matches adult volunteers with youth to cultivate one-to-one mentoring relationships.

At-risk youth ages six through 17 who would benefit from adult support and guidance are partnered with women and men who volunteer to be friends, advocates, and role models to them. Each partner meets weekly over the course of a year and enjoy activities, hanging-out, meals, playing games, doing homework and going on adventures in the area.

Group events are scheduled throughout the year and include barbeques, bowling, snowmobiling, bike rodeo, rafting, hikes, ice climbing, fun fests, and more.

There is a waiting list of junior partners needing a senior partner.

Consider being a senior partner; it will enrich your life! Contact Partners at 970-249-1116 to volunteer.

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REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

BABY & ME--TOBACCO FREE PROGRAM TO OFFER FREE DIAPERS FOR GRADUATES

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE- Montrose County Health and Human Services (HHS) is proud to team up with the *BABY & ME – Tobacco Free Program* to offer help for pregnant women who smoke. Tobacco use during pregnancy is a known cause of birth defects, premature births, underweight babies, and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS). Quitting smoking greatly reduces the health risks to the mother and baby.

HHS Staff is now trained and certified to offer the *BABY & ME Tobacco Free Program™* to help pregnant women quit smoking and stay quit. Danace Arthur, Health Educator for Montrose County, states "The *BABY & ME – Tobacco Free Program™* is researched-based and proven effective to help pregnant women quit smoking and maintain smoking cessation throughout the postpartum period and beyond."

Laurie Adams, *BABY & ME – Tobacco Free Program* Executive Director and program creator, provided the technical support and training to Montrose County and certified one staff member to implement and enroll women into the program. "Montrose County Health and Human Services is a perfect fit for the program," Ms. Adams states. "They provide services to a large number of prenatal women and they support their patients' quit attempts. The greatest gift a woman can give her baby is a tobacco-free pregnancy and a tobacco-free home."

Pregnant women who enroll in the program receive counseling support and resources to help them quit smoking. Upon successfully quitting and staying quit, enrolled participants are eligible for FREE diapers during the prenatal period and up to 12 months following the birth of their baby. This program employs cessation

methods and guidelines set forth by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and its effectiveness has been documented through research.

The *BABY & ME – Tobacco Free Program*, conducted at Montrose County Health and Human Services [1845 S. Townsend Ave. Montrose, CO 81401](https://www.montrosecounty.org/1845-S-Townsend-Ave-Montrose-CO-81401), is generously funded by Rocky Mounty Health Foundation. Montrose County Health and Human Services' goal is to enroll at least 50 pregnant smoking women into the program. The *BABY & ME – Tobacco Free Program* is in 18 states nationwide and has enrolled over 12,000 women. Partners in the community where Baby & Me Tobacco Free Services can also be found are with Hilltop Family Resources at [970-252-7745](tel:970-252-7745). For more information on the program or how to enroll contact Montrose County Health Educator, Danace Arthur at [970-252-5011](tel:970-252-5011) or go to www.babyandmetobaccofree.org.



Introducing Independent Living at The Homestead at Montrose

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

RIDGWAY STUDENTS TAKE THE LEAD ON LOCAL RECYCLE CAMPAIGN

Dear Editor:

We are in 7th grade at Ridgway Secondary School, and we want to introduce you to our **Carry On! Ridgway Reuses** Campaign. We are dedicated to raising awareness about the dangers of plastics and helping Ridgway become a single use, plastic bag free town. We have put together an inspiring logo with the help of Anna Mahlin, Nicole Greene and Willow Krois. Thank you, friends! Expect to see reusable bags with our new logo around town very soon.

As a part of our community outreach we are bringing the "Bag It" film to the Sherbino Theater in Ridgway on March 22 at 6pm. This film explores the harmful effects of plastics on the environment and human health and what you can do about it. We want to thank our sponsors for this informational screening: Alpine Bank and the Sherbino Theater. This event will feature a short presentation by the Carry On! Team, as well as an introduction by filmmaker Suzan Beraza. We will also sell our reusable bags at the event. A Q&A with Suzan and the Carry On! Team will follow the screening.

According to TheWorldCounts.com, 160,000 plastic bags are used globally EVERY SECOND and 10% of the plastics we use yearly end up in the ocean. We can reduce these numbers! Take action to combat these environmental tragedies by saying "NO" to plastic grocery bags and get into the habit of carrying your own reusable bags instead. Please contact us if you would like to make a donation to our campaign at carryonridgway@gmail.com. Hope to see you at the movie!

The Carry On! Team,

Indigo Krois and Maizy Gordon

MICHAEL LAWTON PHOTOGRAPHER

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE 1974 / 1986

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

WHY ARMING TEACHERS AS FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE WON'T WORK

Dear Editor:

What I see with the 'arm the teachers' crowd is the desire to do something fast so we can ignore what promises to be a long-term problem. The attitude is "What are the chances that a shooting will happen in Montrose and what are my chances, or those of my children, of getting caught up in the fray? How many ostriches have been 'harvested' because their head was in the sand?

I love to shoot. Pistols have become my favorite because I do not have to lay down to compete but they are, and always have been, for me, harder to handle than rifles. Last month after not having fired my Springfield rifle (an old WWII weapon) for well over 20 years, that I have gone back to for hunting, my first three rounds at 300 yards could be covered with a coke can. With the pistol that I carried in Vietnam I can reliably put seven rounds (a magazine full) of 45 caliber bullets into a dinner plate at 25 yards. But I will tell you that my stance, my grip (two hands) and my attention to what I am doing all play into that success. Oh yes, my 63 years of firing the M1911 pistol has at least a small part to play. I shoot my Ruger and my Glock much better than that. Let us remember that these three pistols are large and not one that could be concealed in a classroom setting; these are not pistols made for the concealed carry trade. Generally the police carry the big ones.

As for practice, last night I stumbled upon a friend who I did not even suspect to be a competitive shooter. He shoots twice a

week in competition and who knows how often for practice. This takes time, money and dedication. Police requirements at the range are far less---maybe quarterly. Gunslingers in the old west shot daily since their lives depended on it. The cavalry seldom fired a shot in practice. The military of my time went to the range one time a year. When I attended POST at 50 years of age, I qualified on the first day with the first string of fire. Most of my classmates, young muscular, agile, motivated males took all week to get it together. (I got the week off). Shooting on the range is to stand, load, aim, breath, fire and relax, then repeat the process. There is no resistance, no shooting back, no movement of the target, no distractions. If your pistol malfunctions, you get an 'alibi' and get to do it over.

When I was on the law enforcement posse in Idaho (as opposed to the search and rescue posse we have here) we were required to fire the combat courses quarterly. That was four boxes of shells provided by the sheriff each year. Then about \$40, now about \$80. That quantity of fire just makes you know how to operate the pistol, on the range and covers the agency's butt if you shoot someone you do not intend to. A box a week is more like it for shooting in crowds and that is \$1000 per year. How many teachers or staff will attain this proficiency and maintain it?

How many teachers and staff will attain the mental willingness to shoot another human being? This in itself takes a special sort of person with a special mindset, sta-

tistically about 2% of the population.

All of these guns will shoot through walls, doors, windows and human bodies.

Awareness of what is behind the target is very important.

So important (apparently from experience) that a shotgun manufacturer has created a shotgun that shoots shells that will not penetrate wallboard (the walls in houses) but carries enough of the shorter shells so if the bullet does not stop the aggressor the victim can load him up with more shots. Sky marshals shoot special bullets with light powder loads that will not go through the airplane's skin.

Shooting at someone who is shooting back or can shoot back is an entirely different kind of shooting. There is no time to aim in the traditional fashion. It requires reflexive assumption of your combat stance, draw, aim (point) and fire BEFORE the bad guy can shoot you. If there is cover you might use it but as you can imagine in a classroom that is neither possible nor desirable in the shooting situation. It would just take too much time and time when the bad guy is spraying kids is just too precious.

And chances are in a classroom that the teacher will be shooting over the heads of the students at a shooter at the back of the room.

There are many more points to be considered but these are all strong enough considerations to make serious thinking about armed teachers as the first line of defense an absurdity.

Bill Bennett, Montrose

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TRAINING TO SERVE & PROTECT: TECHNICAL COLLEGE OF THE ROCKIES

From pg 1



Current TCR College Police Academy students study in a classroom behind a memorial photo display of officers killed in the line of duty in Colorado. (Photo by Michael Lawton).

On a recent day the recruits were learning “arrest control” techniques as they practiced taking each other to the mats.

The criminal justice program at TCR College is designed to prepare students for a career in law enforcement. The 16-week program has new classes starting in the spring and fall. The program meets the basic training requirements set by the State of Colorado as a prerequisite for taking the test to become Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) Certified.

Those who wish to, through a cooperative program with Colorado Mesa University, can take advantage of TCR College courses transferring into the A.A.S. in criminal justice at CMU.

Training in criminal justice can help prepare individuals for a variety of related career opportunities, the college brochure states:

- Correctional officers and jailers, entry level wages at \$41,538;
- Detectives and criminal investigators, \$48,058;
- First-line supervisors of police and detectives, \$59,206;
- Police and sheriff's patrol officers, \$41,340;
- Security guards, \$22,109.

There is a bright employment outlook

nationally for these positions.

As the need increases on the Western Slope and Colorado, TCR's academy has always stepped up. From the old days when it was called the Delta-Montrose Area Vocational Technical College, to today's modern facility, the technical college lies half-way between Montrose and Delta, standing ready to educate future peace officers. This year's class of 12 includes four veterans of the armed forces, 10 young men and two young women. Five of the academy students have already been hired by area police and sheriff departments and those departments are paying for their education; the other seven are paying on their own to have the chance to become officers in the future.

Last semester's class enjoyed a 100-percent hiring rate, the class before 90 percent. Students come primarily from the Western Slope, Montrose, Delta, San Miquel counties and there is one student from Sedgwick County near Sterling. A typical day in the academy will have students arriving at 6 am and leaving about 4:30 pm. It's a long day filled with classes needed for that vital POST credential; there are no guarantees the student will get hired as a peace officer. “It is up to you to convince a department to get

hired,” Stassen said. Those who have been hired and are being trained through a department have already cleared that hurdle. One of those is Chris Hearing of Montrose.

Veteran Hearing is taking the training; he served in combat with the U.S. Army in Afghanistan and Iraq. Hearing and another veteran, Travis Hardy of Montrose say they are training to be peace officers because they just weren't ready to hang up the uniforms.

Hardy served for eight years with two combat tours. He said, “I wanted to keep serving, but I had a family that became my life, so I got on with the Montrose Sheriff's.” He's been married for 15 years and has three children. Reflecting, Hardy said, “Having been in combat I wanted to give back to the world, instead of taking away.”

Deanna Hudler isn't a hero yet, but she has committed herself to become one as one of two TCR College Police Academy students in the class of 2018 who are female.

The prize for those graduating from the academy are Academy credentials (a diploma) and a POST Certificate (Peace Officers Standards State Training) which states they have completed the Colorado

TRAINING TO SERVE & PROTECT: TECHNICAL COLLEGE OF THE ROCKIES

From previous pg



Police Academy Director David Stassen explains the program in his office at the TCR College campus. (Photo by Michael Lawton).

state governing board requirements to be hired as a peace officer. This is good throughout the State of Colorado; each state has their own laws and different training.

To be awarded their POST Certificate, students must successfully complete 52 different academic classes and pass three skills classes (driving, shooting, arrest con-

trol). Twenty-four instructors will teach them those classes in their areas of expertise. Today's instructor in police report writing was Anna Cooling, a private attorney with prior experience in the district attorney's office.

Director Stassen knows the program well, having graduated from the academy in 1991. He joined the Grand Junction Police Department as a patrol officer in 1991; from there he held positions in crime prevention, as a field training officer; detective/general investigations, patrol corporal and sergeant; and special projects sergeant. He retired as a patrol sergeant from Grand Junction. Stassen now serves as a reserve officer in the Cedaredge Police Department and has been an instructor at the academy since 2015. He was named director last year.

During his career, Stassen has been named Colorado Police Protective Association Officer of the Year, and has been honored with the Grand Junction Police Department Distinguished Service Award, Police Chief Challenge Coin (twice), City of Grand Junction employee of the month, and others.

Stassen said after he retired he spent a year trying to raise buffalo. "It just wasn't for me," he said, "so I came back to teaching as a police academy instructor and became director of the academy in August

of 2017." He has two grown children, one a fireman and one who is a college student.

2018 is a year that will see the turnover (retirement) of older officers and there will be positions available, Stassen said. "The pendulum swings approximately every 30 years or so," he said. Those who began their career in the early 90s, such as Stassen, are now retiring and a new group of officers will take over, he said. To be considered for admission to the Police Academy an individual must go through a significant background check, with no domestic violence violations, no felonies, a clear driver's license and no history of marijuana use. As marijuana use is a federal offense, even though legal in Colorado, a history of use in the last three to five years rules you out, he said. A successful career in criminal justice requires an individual to meet rigorous physical and personal qualifications. Important characteristics include honesty, sound judgment, integrity and a sense of responsibility. *For more information about the police academy call the Technical College of the Rockies at 970-874-7671 or fax 970-874-8796, or stop by the college at 1765 US Hwy 50. To register for these classes you may do so in person or by mail to TCR Registration, 1765 US Hwy 50, Delta, CO 81416.*



St. Patrick's Day

Pub Crawl

Saturday, March 17th
1 to 4pm

Afternoon Social Hour

\$5 WildBerry Mojitos & Moscow Mules
\$5 Mimosas & Wine . \$3 Beers . Live Music

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HISTORIC VENUE

CITY MUNICIPAL COURT REVEALS BUDGETARY SHORTFALL OF 32k FOR 2017: DANGEROUS ANIMALS, MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES ON THE RISE IN CITY OF MONTROSE



During the City Council Work Session on March 5th Municipal Court Judge Richard Brown reported on 2017 municipal court activities. Center (L to R) Clerk of Court Emily Boyko, Municipal Court Judge Richard Brown, Assistant City Attorney Andrew Boyko and City Attorney Stephen Alcorn. Photo by Gail Marvel.

By Gail Marvel

MONTROSE-The Montrose City Council takes no formal action during work sessions. The March 5, 2018 work session began with the introduction of five new city employees.

New City Employees:

Utilities Worker Andrew Huntley
Streets Worker Donald Castle
Public Works Customer Service Representative Margo Poynter
Animal Shelter Technician Lori Young
Communications Assistant William Woody

Discussion Items:

Municipal Court Update – Municipal Court Judge Richard Brown, Clerk of Court Emily Boyko.

The Municipal Court proceedings, which take place in City Council Chambers, are held every Thursday beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Judge Brown candidly reported on court activities, “Last year was a bummer year for us. I don’t think we have ever gone overbudget. We had 1,682 cases and a shortfall of \$32,000. One of the things is that the courts [and the police department] are not generally revenue generating agencies. We’re kind of a drag on everybody [other departments].”

Brown explained part of the shortfall is the result of new legislation known as the Debtor Prison Bill, “A person is assessed a fine, but if they don’t show up for the hearing we can no longer issue a bench warrant for failure to appear. The end result is we can’t get people who owe money to come back to court in many cases.” Collecting fines is further complicated when those involved are people on public assistance and those who claim hardship. As for restitution Brown said, “I have to tell people who are victims of a crime that the best we can do is turn it over to collections.”

Brown said, “Most traffic cases bring in \$100 to \$120 [each]. We collect most of the money on traffic cases, but they are down by 250 cases. That’s about \$25,000 - \$30,000.” The court has 316 old cases which have now been turned over to a collection agency.

A huge part of the court case load is shoplifting and juvenile disorderly, “Almost all of the juvenile disorderly court cases are girl-fights. The word was out that we wouldn’t put girls into detention, but that is not the case. We do put them in detention.”

Animal control tickets for dangerous ani-

mals are going up every year. There is also an increase in people who have mental health issues coming to court. Brown said, “Hopefully we can get help from the Center for Mental Health and get some crisis intervention.”

The Municipal Court has officially reinstated Teen Court which convenes around the 19th of each month at 5:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers. Assistant City Attorney Andrew Boyko holds the role of the Teen Court Coordinator and works with Mr. McDougall’s and Mr. Mahoney’s government class at the high school to supply the prosecution team, the defense team and the jurors. There have been 15 juvenile defendants to participate in Teen Court in 2017.

Montrose Success Fund Scholarship Program – City Manager Bill Bell.

At the request of council, Colorado Mesa University (CMU) College and Career Advisor Jeff Turner put together a proposal for administering the \$100,000 in scholarship funds. A lengthy discussion ensued with council raising more questions than had previously been asked.

One big issue was determining eligibility. Councilman Dave Bowman did not want the scholarship funds to be available to homeschoolers, “My feeling is if we want to support CMU, [then] we want to support public schools and promote sending kids to public schools. I have no problem including Olathe high school students as part of our school district.”

City Manager Bill Bell took input from council and will confer with Turner before bringing the Scholarship program back to the council during another work session.

Triesch Addition Annexation – Senior Planner Garry Baker.

The sliver of property is located east of Montrose Regional Airport and one-half mile north of the city shop. The 0.5-acre strip was included in the Logan Park Minor Subdivision; however, the strip was not annexed at the time. This annexation will bring the 0.5-acre strip into the city limits and allow final processing of the Logan Park Subdivision. Baker said, “This was a boundary adjustment that the city was not

Continued next pg

CITY MUNICIPAL COURT REVEALS BUDGETARY SHORTFALL OF 32k

From previous pg

aware of. This is almost the definition of a housekeeping annexation. It's a little embarrassing that we annexed it when a part of it wasn't in the city, but we don't see it as our fault."

Annual Water Meter Purchase – Utilities Manager David Bries.

The unit price of the water meters is based on the quantity and size needed; the 5/8-inch meter is considerably less expensive than a four-inch meter. Bries said, "Out of 7,500 meters we only had six meters go out where we had to read them manually." For 2018 staff recommends extension of the contract to purchase Badger meters from National Meter & Automation.

General City Council Discussion:

Save the Sculptures Fundraising Campaign & Loan Agreement.

Although no one was assigned to talk on this topic, City Manager Bill Bell gave a brief history and overview of the situation. The sculptures are within the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) boundary, two of which are publicly owned, the other is privately owned. The current art loan agreement expires on April 12.

Discussion included which organizations should lead the charge, whether or not there is a better location for the sculptures and if the community is really behind the effort to keep the sculptures in Montrose.

City Manager Bill Bell said, "If they go



New city employees were introduced to city council during the City Council Work Session held on March 5, 2018. (L to R) Streets Worker Donald Castle, Animal Shelter Technician Lori Young, Utility Worker Andrew Huntley, Public Works Customer Service Representative Margo Poynter and Communications Assistant William Woody. Photo by Gail Marvel.

away the community will not crumble, but it would be nice if they stay." Councilman Roy Anderson said, "I haven't heard anyone say it would be a tragedy if they were gone." Councilman Dave Bowman said, "The DDA should be leading the charge if they are going downtown. I am sympathetic toward it, but it is in the downtown. I see no plan of attack from any-

one." Councilwoman Barbara Bynum said, "Is there a way to keep them in the community, but adopt them out to another location? Would they work better in a different location like the [county] Event Center or Mayfly?"

Staff Comments: The council will hold a budget retreat on Sept. 10. Orientation for newly elected councilmembers will be held on April 9.



MONTROSE ENTREPRENEURS MEETUP

BREAKING OUT OF ENTREPRENEURIAL POVERTY

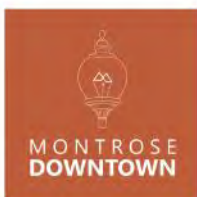
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- **Go from feeding a cash-eating monster to cultivating a cash-cow that fuels your lifestyle.**

If you're tired of scrambling for cash each month or wondering how you're going to survive next quarter, then this talk is for you.



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FORMER MONTROSE RESIDENT SPEAKS OUT ABOUT MENTAL ILLNESS

After Suicide Attempt, Chris Larsen Finds Compassion, Medication in Garfield County



Chris Larsen and his puppy Zippy are shown in the Mirror file photo.

By Caitlin Switzer

GARFIELD COUNTY—For most of his adult life, former Montrose resident Christopher Larsen tried to deny his mental illness. As the son of a mother who was a paranoid schizophrenic, Chris has struggled since early adulthood with severe bi-polar illness, a disease that has interfered with his ability to keep a steady job and maintain healthy relationships. Today though, Larsen has changed his attitude about his disease. Since an incident just over a month ago, he has been housed in the Garfield County Jail, where

he has had regular access to the medication he needs.

"I find myself humiliated and in jail once again," Larsen said in a letter to the *Mirror*, "this time for leading the Carbondale Police Department on a slow speed car chase culminating with me challenging the police to shoot.

"This act was in pursuit of a permanent solution to my most desperate, life-long problem, bi-polar manic depression," he said. "Untreated and without medication I sought the final solution...but alas it was not to be."

Chris Larsen, who made headlines in Montrose three years ago when his German shepherd was shot on a Downtown street by a local police officer, is no stranger to detention facilities; "More often than not, sick people like myself are ending up in America's county jails," he notes. Statistics prove him correct; according to Colorado Department of Corrections 2016 statistics, 39 percent of inmates have moderate to severe mental health needs. A [highly-shared finding from 2010](#) notes that, "at the 2007 conference of the County Sheriffs of Colorado, 'it was a consensus among those who attended the conference that coping with the challenges posed by housing mentally ill inmates is the top problem facing sheriff's offices statewide.' Pueblo County Sheriff Kirk Taylor said: 'By default, we've become the mental health agencies of the individual counties.'"

"Almost all of these facilities are ill-equipped to deal with a surprisingly large

segment of the population, who like myself are unable to deal with the rigors of modern life without medication," Chris Larson told the *Mirror*. "While in custody in the La Plata County Jail last fall for violating my probation on an earlier charge, a nurse laughed in my face when I told her I was on Abilify...a malevolent response due to the cost of the drug, which at that point was not available on the generic level.

"The \$1,200 price tag per month...was all that was restricting me from a stay in that facility devoid of muscle twitches, seizures, and nightly mind racing—in addition to my violent mood swings, and a new dimension added to my panacea of misery, auditory and visual hallucinations."

Garfield County appears to be unique in Chris Larsen's experience, with an awareness and atmosphere of compassion that is new to him.

"I am delighted to report that the Garfield County Jail, where I am now housed, has put me back on my medication," Larsen said, adding that when he was younger, "nothing in this world terrified me more than people finding out I was different, but now, I feel as though a huge weight has been lifted from my soul, and a bright new chapter in the book I call my life is about to begin."

Christopher Larsen now welcomes correspondence, especially from others who may suffer from mental illness. He can be reached at the [Garfield County Jail](#), and welcomes letters from friends old and new.

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REPUBLICAN CAUCUS STANDING ROOM ONLY



Spencer Hammer, Montrose Republican Party chairman.



Olathe Mayor Rob Smith is a candidate for Montrose BOCC Dist. 2.



BOCC Dist 2 Candidate Sue Hansen also spoke. Photos by Richard Harding.

By Richard Harding

OLATHE-Three hundred and sixty-eight Republicans overflowed the Olathe Middle School gymnasium for the biannual Montrose County Republican Caucus on March 6. In addition, 32 Republicans were present in the West End and five in Mahler. A total of 200 delegate positions were up for grabs in order to attend the March 17th Republican Assembly and cast a ballot for one of two contested races, Sheriff and District 2 County Commissioner.

Spencer Hammer, Montrose Republican Party chairman, started off the evening by having Sheriff Rick Dunlap offer the Invocation. This will be the last Caucus Sheriff Dunlap will participate in as an elected official; he received a round of applause.

Some concern was expressed over RE1J having a school safety meeting on Monday night and parent-teacher conferences competing with the Caucus on Tuesday night, with the option of parent-teacher conferences on Thursday night. That is a great deal to ask of parents all in one week, while also participating in the biannual election process. In communicating with RE-IJ Superintendent Schiell, efforts will be made in the future to prevent so many events all in the same week as Cau-

cus.

Rob Smith led off the candidate presentations followed by Sue Hansen; both are vying for the District 2 County Commissioner seat being vacated by Commissioner Glen Davis. Gene Lillard, Adam Murdie and Justin Westbrook followed with their individual presentation to fill the Office of Sheriff.

Brad Hughes, Montrose County assessor; Tressa Guynes, Montrose County clerk and recorder; Dr. Thomas Canfeld, Montrose County coroner; and Rosemary Murphy, Montrose County treasurer were also in attendance and opted to not make presentations as they are currently not in contested races. State Senator Don Coram and State Representative Marc Catlin are in Legislative Session in Denver and could not be pre-



The Republican Caucus on March 6 was standing room only. Photo by Richard Harding.

sent for the Caucus.

In a conversation with Marc Catlin shortly before the Caucus, he had the honor of having four of his Bills pass third reading in the Colorado House of Representatives the day of Caucus.

This hardly ever happens this early in the Legislative Session. Those Bills will now move on the Senate for approval.



Just in thyme for spring ...

The Mirror

Homegrown content with flavor.

MIRROR IMAGES: WESTERN SLOPE LEADERSHIP SUMMIT



MONTROSE-Members of the Montrose High School Student Council welcomed youth leaders from across the Western Slope to Grace Church March 6 for the annual Western Slope Leadership Summit.

"The majority of them are members of a student council," organizer Lydia Stryker said. "It has been amazing to see everyone come out of their box and start expressing their opinions today."

With eight sessions and breakout sessions as well, the summit offered a rare opportunity to hear from peers across the region. The Western Slope Leadership Summit is now in its sixth year, said organizer Ashlyn Manuel.

The variety of topics discussed included school pride and culture, communication, bullying, and presenting oneself in a positive way in school.



OPINION/EDITORIAL: COMMENTARY

LET'S HAVE MORE OVERSIGHT ON STATE'S FUNERAL HOMES, LESS REGS ON WORKERS



Senator Don Coram.
Courtesy photo.

It is not often that newspapers in Denver cover stories unraveling on the Western Slope; it also not often the FBI has to investigate crime in Montrose, Colorado. This caught the attention of myself and other Western Slope legislators and we are taking action. As many of you know, there have been serious concerns for the practices of a Montrose funeral home having two separate in-house businesses which created incentives to dispose of bodies unethically and return cement mix in place of loved ones' remains. This is beyond the title of unethical and simply grotesque. The Senate will soon be seeing another bill from me which intends to fix this. My "body parts" bill takes away from funeral

establishments the ability to manage a non-transplant tissue bank. This will take away money incentives to dispose of bodies in ways that are not wished by the family. Along with separating the two business practices, the bill requires that any funeral home or crematory that wishes to deliver parts to a non-transplant tissue bank keep written records for three years.

It is always sad to hear that action has to be taken in the legislative process to prevent practices as such, but do know that we are watching and taking action. Beyond fixing poor business practices, the Senate is taking a hard look at government regulation. SB 193 intends to make it harder for state agencies to impose personal qualification requirements on professions or occupations. Before 2019, all Colorado agencies will need to review personal qualification requirements and demonstrate that the requirement is necessary and narrowly-tailored to address specific, legitimate, public health, safety,

or welfare objectives.

With more and more government agencies and regulations being created at the state and federal levels, the difficulty for workers to practice legally becomes greater and is putting hard working Coloradans in a rut or even out of work. By reviewing, replacing, and repealing unnecessary regulation and making it harder to impose regulation on our citizens, we can avoid these ruts that are caused by government's overreach. SB 193 is a bill that does not regulate the citizen, but regulates what the government can do to the citizen.

Western Colorado should not worry about being represented in the State legislature. We have a group of great citizens looking out for our constituents. When crime occurs, we look for ways to fix it. When the government overreaches, we find a way to restrict it. We may argue, debate, and disagree, but we are always looking to make Colorado the best it can be and the state its citizens deserve.



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Michele Gad is a **Certified DelGiaccio Neuro Art Therapist**, who assists individuals with cognitive or mental health challenges to live life as fully and independently as possible. She developed **FAME** in 2010 to better assist her clients. Sessions are specifically designed to meet client's individual needs, goals, abilities, and level of commitment...and have fun!

MEDC SPONSORS SPEAK OUT ABOUT SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS IN MONTROSE

By Gail Marvel

All too often the general public looks to government to fix the economic landscape for their community. While government plays a vital role, the real unsung heroes in the community are those in the private sector — industry, businesses, corporations, manufacturing and organizations whose sole mission is economic development.

On March 9, 2019 Montrose Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) held their 61st Annual Meeting at the Montrose Pavilion. Fifteen businesses and organizations sponsored the event and this is what some of them have to say about economic development:

ProSpace Interiors President Tom Huerkamp, who has been in business 48 years, is an investor in Delta County Economic Company, Grand Junction Economic Partnership, and Montrose Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). Huerkamp said, "The idea of good economic development is creating primary income of a household. It is *not* more street-small stores, retail jobs with minimum wage, seasonal work or a job with a 30-hour work week."

With enthusiasm Huerkamp said, "When I write a check to MEDC I'm an investor in the City of Montrose, in their businesses, government and schools. As they do well, I'm going to do well. Businesses need to understand the concept of investing. It's not a membership, it's not paying dues, it's not like giving \$50 to a fund raiser, or putting money into a kitty. I'm a firm believer that if every business person invested in his community we'd all be better off. It's more than something like buying Girl Scout cookies...even though I do like the S'mores cookies!"

US Bank President Randall Cupp said, "At US Bank we know that a strong business environment and an educated workforce ensure the prosperity of our communities. Montrose and western Colorado have great diversity of business, activities and events. By working together, we are able to support and enhance our area and build a sense of community. We are proud

to partner with MEDC in investing in the community."

Montrose Memorial Hospital (MMH) Director of Community Engagement Leann Tobin said, "Montrose Memorial Hospital is one of the strongest economic engines in our community and we have a symbiotic relationship with the people here. We need each other and it's important for all of us to work together and support one another. We know how our community works, we have strong relationships with each other and know the mover-shakers. MEDC works hard to keep the community strong."

Montrose Forest Products Plant Manager Mike Kusar said, "Montrose Forest Products believes that economic development is vital to the economic wellbeing and quality of life in and around Montrose. Almost all the lumber we manufacture leaves the local area. We don't sponsor MEDC to create more sales for our company, we sponsor because we are interested in the diversity of the local economy and what it brings to our area. I see the most valuable component of MEDC is their stand-alone independence. They are a wonderful resource for businesses that are interested in learning more about why a company would want to start-up in, or relocate, to Montrose."

City of Montrose City Manager Bill Bell said, "The City of Montrose is pleased to sponsor the 2018 MRDC Annual meeting because it is a great opportunity for members of the community to learn about various economic and business development activities from the past year. We appreciate

the quality of the keynote speakers. There is so much going on in our community related to business development, which makes it difficult for any one entity to get it all done in a timely manner. The city is working within our niche to make things happen for the betterment of the community and our relationship with MEDC is getting stronger every year."

Wells Fargo Bank Business Relationship Manager Lita Sargent said, "Wells Fargo is a long-time supporter of MEDC. They are a valuable organization who supports the economic health of our community. No other organization is as passionate and personal in representing the community's many assets. From the Governor's office to the local manufacturers, MEDC brings the right people together to shine the



Continued next page

MEDC SPONSORS SPEAK OUT ABOUT SUPPORT *From previous pg*

spotlight on Montrose, collaborate effectively on opportunities and tackle challenges head-on. The impact of the organization on our community is far-reaching and significant."

Colorado Outdoors Owner David Dragoo said, "In a time of limited resources, communities must pool their resources and work together. We can learn a lot from one another and it's the only way to go. In our opinion, to be successful you must have a champion to help navigate state and local business incentives. It is a very complicated specialty and MEDC has helped us understand and connect with these incentives. For us they are the go-to for economic development partnerships and a key governmental liaison. We see them as a connector and it is critical for us to show support for organizations that have helped us along the way."

Colorado Scenes Owner Lu Anne Tyrrell said, "I sponsored the MEDC Annual meeting because it is an organization that promotes the greater good in the region. They bring a specialized skill-set that is integral to the continued growth of the community, but their presence is also regional and state-wide. It boils down to

this, we all win when we work together!" **Dalby, Wendland & Co CPA**, CVA Buck Miller said "One of the greatest needs for any business considering relocation is confidentiality. Public organizations, such as the city and the county, by virtue of their need for transparency, cannot provide confidentiality. An economic development corporation is critical to a community's ability to attract new business."

Miller, who is also the Chair for the MEDC Board of Directors, noted that businesses that have been assisted by the organization currently have a payroll of \$66 M.

Miller said, "An economic development corporation serves as a clearing house to provide information and assistance to all parties interested and engaged in the economic development activity. MEDC, by virtue of Sandy Head's (Executive Director) long tenure and expertise, is widely recognized by all economic entities in the state of Colorado as a progressive and active organization. Dalby, Wendland benefits indirectly by the service we provide to the growth generated by MEDC's efforts."

Montrose County Commissioner Glen Davis said, "The backbone of any commu-

nity is based on jobs and in our case [county] property values. In striving for economic development, we are trying to increase the opportunity to live and stay in Montrose. An economic development corporation connects Montrose to the state and to the nation." As part of the county's Community Partner Funding, Montrose County Commissioners allocated \$15,000 to MEDC for 2018."

The Montrose Mirror owner Caitlin Switzer said, "As a small business owner myself, I am supportive of the work being done by MEDC to bring primary jobs to our community. More primary jobs mean increased opportunities, better schools, and a more appealing place in which to live, work and do business. I appreciate the fact that MEDC is run by somebody who has been a successful business owner, who knows what it means to live without a steady paycheck, and who understands the challenges we face."

The offices of MEDC are located at:
1601 Oxbow Drive, Suite 360B
Montrose, CO 81401
(970) 249-9438

Executive Director Sandy Head can be reached at sandyh@montroseedc.org

MIRROR IMAGES...BY JENNIFER MCCLANAHAN



Carrie Liz Williams performing with band at Intrinzik March 3.

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OPINION/EDITORIAL: LETTERS

APPRECIATES MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DAVE LAURSEN

Editor:

The rest of the story....

A lot of things have been said about Dave Laursen, somehow his accomplishments for the betterment of Montrose County fall under; "No good deed goes unpunished!"

If you wonder where the Retail Enhancement of downtown got started, thank Dave Laursen.

If you call 911 and a qualified and trained Dispatcher answers, thank Dave Laursen.

If a qualified and trained Sheriff Deputy responds to your emergency, thank Dave Laursen.

If the increased funding for the Coroner, District Attorney, West End Medical and various other entities is beneficial for you, thank Dave Laursen.

If you drive down a county road and it's smooth, thank Dave Laursen.

If you are grateful that the County Fleet Department was completely modernized, saving taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars, thank Dave Laursen.

Now, if you are grateful that an individual who has cost the county \$50,000 to satisfy his grudge, is not the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, thank Keith Caddy and Glen Davis!

Richard Harding, Olathe

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

UTILITY WORK ON SOUTH HILLCREST DRIVE

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Contractors working for the City of Montrose are working to replace an aging waterline main along South Hillcrest Drive between Sunnyside Avenue and Niagara Road.

The initial phases of this project will focus on replacing tie-ins to existing lines along each of the side streets within the project area.

Pedestrians and motorists can expect to see isolated road closures, starting Thursday, on side streets while each of the tie-ins takes place. Hillcrest Drive will remain open for this first phase of work. The city asks that motorists and pedestrians exercise caution within the work area and respect all coned off areas.

Any questions regarding the project may be directed to City Engineer Scott Murphy at [970-901-1792](tel:970-901-1792).

St. Patrick's Day March 17th, 2018
9am-2pm



St. Patrick's Day

Join us at the
**Cowboy
Mercantile**

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81521

For more information call Patti

Cowboy Poetry Gathering

✂ Let your leprechauns be entertained by the best Cowboy Poets in the west Terry Nash and Peggy Malone in concert at 12pm.

✂ Bake Sale to Benefit Our Fellow Cowboy Poet - Floyd Beard. He had an aneurism and has been recovering in an Arizona hospital for over a month



✂ Eat sweets and help this family – scrumptious baked goods donated by local bakers.

Floyd Beard also has a GoFundMe account online or if you prefer you can donate at Alpine Bank where Peggy Malone has opened a Medical Fund account for Floyd.

✂ Bake Sale ✂ Jewelry ✂ Western Wear & Boots ✂ Tack & Treats

ISSUE 139 March 5, 2018

ART & SOL

BE ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS! MONTROSE MEN'S GIVING CLUB TO HOLD FIRST MEETING APRIL 10 @ COBBLE CREEK



Bob Tesch and Carlton Mason of the Giving Guys of Montrose invite local men to the first club meeting April 10. Mirror staff photo.

By Caitlin Switzer

MONTROSE-The Giving Guys of Montrose will have their first quarterly club meeting from 5:30 pm to 7 p.m. April 10 at the Cobble Creek Clubhouse. And though the club was inspired by the popular Montrose Women's Giving Club, the goal is not to compete with the ladies.

At least, "Not yet," said Bob Tesch, one of those organizing the Men's Giving Club. "I know a lot of guys who wanted to join the women's club," he said. "It's just easier to keep things segregated for now—but

in five years, perhaps we could hold a joint meeting and give away \$500,000."

Men may respond in different ways to the non-profit presentations, he noted, but like the women's club, will be able to leverage the power of a large group for greater impact. "This is pure philanthropy; it's very efficient," Tesch said. "I have been in Rotary for 18 years; at the risk of being politically incorrect, I can see this making a larger impact, without the bureaucracy."

Political affiliation does not matter, he said. "You just have

to want to be a change agent and help Montrose be that much better."

For Carlton Mason, a non-profit director and fundraising pro by day, the appeal of the Men's Giving Club lies in the chance to engage in real-world crowdfunding. "It will help to diversify how funds are used," he said. "The investment is minimal, this is the way to make an impact." It is also an excellent way for a non-profit organization to generate additional funds and reach more potential donors, Mason said.

"It is good for the people who donate to

hear about other organizations," he added, "It provides exposure, for donors and board members, in addition to a check."

Mason noted that when the organization he heads (CASA of the Seventh Judicial District) presented during a recent women's giving club meeting, "We got drawn, but we lost." Still, "Two weeks later, a lady who was in the audience donated \$115,000 to us."

Mason also believes that the Giving Guys' format will encourage all ages to join. "I am hoping this will attract some of our younger men, maybe get some of our 30-somethings out who have not been engaged," he said. "It's easy to get into, and a great way to get involved in philanthropy."

To join, each member must bring \$100 to the quarterly meeting; the club will randomly select three possible beneficiaries from among the local non-profit organizations, listen to short presentations about each one, vote for their favorite, and present a check to that non-profit that night.

Manly snacks and beverages will be provided. The effort is being led by Mason, Tesch, Dan Mohr, Kay Heinschell, and Bob Springer.

For more information email: guysgivingclubmontrose@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

WOMENS' CLUB FLEA MARKET TO BE APRIL 7 @ FRIENDSHIP HALL

Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-Montrose Womens Club Flea Market, April 7th, 8 am-4 PM, Friendship Hall, Montrose County Fairgrounds; 100+ tables; antiques; coins; jewelry; handcrafted items; tools and more.; "Drawing for Charity." Free admission; Vendor spaces, contact Lexy at 970-275-3336.



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MIKE SIMPSON

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business is just the beginning.

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Good to know:

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

SYNTHESIS JAZZING THINGS UP @ MONTROSE PAVILION MARCH 30



Special to Art & Sol

MONTROSE-Synthesis continues to dazzle audiences around the globe, leaving their mark on the world of jazz music. With a repertoire that has the band as well as



audience members dancing, each performance is one to be remembered. From Brigham Young University, the award-winning instrumental jazz ensemble frequently travels throughout the world pre-

senting popular a wide variety of musical styles, while also exhibiting their first-class musicianship and professionalism.

The group's repertoire consists of a variety of jazz styles including: swing, jazz, blues, rock, fusion, gospel, and Latin styles.

Synthesis takes you on a journey through the timeless numbers from jazz legends like Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Glenn Miller, and Louis Armstrong as well as modern numbers from current legends like Gordon Goodwin, Alan Baylock, and Mike Tomaro. And they even perform original pieces composed by members of the group. Synthesis musicians create an engaging night of jazz music you've been waiting to hear, join us at THE Montrose Pavilion on March 30th at 7:30 pm.

BAG IT! DOCUMENTARY TO SCREEN @ SHERBINO MARCH 22

Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY-Carry On! Ridgway Reuses founders Indigo Krois and Maizy Gordon, 7th graders at Ridgway Secondary School, are hosting a screening of the award-winning environmental documentary *Bag It* at the Sherbino Theater on Thursday, March 22 at 6pm. Come be inspired, and be the first to see the new Carry On! reusable bag designed by the Carry On! Team in collaboration with Sprout Design Studio, Willow Krois and Anna Malin. Suggested donation is \$5; the event is open to the public. *Bag It* follows "everyman" Jeb Berrier as he tries to make sense of our dependence on plastic bags. Although his quest starts out small, Jeb soon learns that

the problem extends past landfills to oceans, rivers and ultimately human health. The average American uses about 500 plastic bags each year, for about twelve minutes each. This single-use mentality has led to the formation of a floating island of plastic debris in the Pacific Ocean more than twice the size of Texas.

The film explores these issues and identifies how our daily reliance on plastic threatens not only waterways and marine life, but human health, too. Two of the most common plastic additives are endocrine disruptors, which have been shown to link to cancer, diabetes, autism, attention deficit disorder, obesity and infertility.

The screening is part of *Carry On! Ridg-*

way Reuses campaign to educate our community about the harms of single use plastics. We hope to bring attention to this environmental crisis and raise money and awareness for the safety of our community and environment.

Carry On! Ridgway Reuses is dedicated to raising awareness about the dangers of plastics and helping Ridgway become a single use plastic bag free town.

This event is supported in part by Alpine Bank and the Sherbino Theater and will feature a short presentation by the Carry On! Crew as well as an introduction by filmmaker Suzan Beraza. Q&A with Suzan & Carry On! Team will follow the screening. Reusable Bags will be for sale.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

7TH ANNUAL ECKERT CRANE DAYS WILL BE MARCH 16-18



Courtesy photo Eckert Crane Days.

Special to Art & Sol

ECKERT-This year the Seventh annual Eckert Crane Days, the annual viewing of the sandhill cranes migrating north from New

Mexico through Colorado's West Slope, will be 16-18 March. Representatives from the Black Canyon Chapter of the Audubon Society (BCAS) will be at the viewing site east of Eckert at Fruitgrowers' Reservoir, 9-11 each day, to answer questions and provide binoculars and spotting scopes.

There could be as many as 20,000 cranes heading north from New Mexico to Idaho over the next month and local observers are already starting to see migrating cranes. Over 5,000 cranes already have been reported in the San Luis Valley, the stopover site before they head north to Fruitgrowers. The cranes stop overnight to feed and rest at the reservoir and generally starting lifting off to head on the next leg of their spring journey between 10-11 the following morning. Viewers are asked to remain at the viewing site or along the road and not approach the birds.

There will be an added bonus this year, a free lunch provided by the Hart Ranch just north of the viewing area to begin at 12:30 on Saturday, 17 March. Details will be provided at the BCAS booth. The new owners of the Hart Ranch intend to develop the agricultural land in a sustainable way and want to meet their local, conservation-minded neighbors.

The viewing site, Crane point, is reached by taking Highway 92 east of Delta four miles to Highway 65, then north six miles to the Big E Market, then turn east on North Road to Crane Point. Viewers are asked to park at the parking lot or off the highway along North Road and be careful of traffic.

For more information contact Geoff Tischbein, 615-7329 or check the BCAS website: www.blackcanyonaudubon.org/field-trips.

MONTROSE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE HEATHER FREDRICK EARNS DEAN'S AWARD WITH DISTINCTION AT COLGATE UNIVERSITY

Special to the Mirror

HAMILTON, NY-- Heather Fredrick, a member of the Colgate University Class of 2020, has earned the fall 2017 Dean's Award with Distinction.

Fredrick is a graduate of Montrose High School, from Montrose, CO (81403).

Fredrick's current major is international relations. Students who receive a term

grade point average of 3.6 or higher while completing at least three courses during the fall 2017 semester earn the Dean's Award with Distinction.

Colgate University is a highly selective residential liberal arts institution distinguished by its commitment to global engagement, student-faculty research, off-campus study, sustainable practices, and utilizing

technology to enhance the teaching and learning experience. Colgate offers 55 majors to a diverse student body of approximately 2,900 undergraduate students, and supports 25 Division I athletic teams. Since 1819, the university's campus in rural central New York has been renowned for its beauty and for the important role it plays in the student experience.

SHAUN PETER CASSIDY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE 4/11

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Applications for the Shaun Peter Cassidy Memorial local scholarship (\$1,000) are due April 11. To be eligible, students must be graduating seniors or former graduates of the RE-1J school district, must demonstrate financial need, must be entering an auto mechanic field of study, can also be used for any accredited vocational/technical program. Submit a completed common scholarship application, including transcript, resume, financial information, letters of recommendation, and essay.

More Information is available in RE-1J secondary schools. Contact Countryman@montrose.net with questions.

Give Back Days

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Come enjoy a delicious meal and we'll donate 20% *
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1st Wednesday: **The Homestead at Montrose**

2nd Wednesday: **All Points Transit**

3rd Wednesday: **Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club**

4th Wednesday: **Valley Manor Care Center**

5th Wednesday: **Community Options Inc.**

(Note: 5th Wed dates are: Mar. 29, May 31, Aug. 30, Nov 29th, 2017)

*After dining, attach the coupon to the bill
and deposit it in the box labeled
"Give Back Days." 20% of your total
bill will be donated to the
designated charity.*

**SUPPORTING IS
NOW DELICIOUSLY
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(970) 252-1111 Fax

*Coupon must be present



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TRI-COUNTY HEALTH NETWORK





CRASH ON INTO THIS BURGER PLACE

Okay. Sometimes you crave a juicy burger, small, big, whatever.

Since Crash Burger arrived on the scene on Main Street in Montrose there has been little question where you are gonna go.

Their advertisement: "From fresh hand-patted burger's (not frozen), daily cut fries to delicious shakes, we have everything the hungry American wants!"

My friend Michael and I decided to check it out, just one more time.

Fresh cooked all meat burger, check. Didn't see it made but I'm guessing they aren't kidding when they say they hand make them.

Served with all the fixings on nice fresh bun, check.

Fixing's include nice crisp pickles (no skimping), tomato, lettuce, onions and special Crash Burger sauce, check.

If you haven't, you need to check out this burger, freshly grilled, juicy and just right. Nothing rubbery or suspicious here.

Comes with a serving of nice, crisp, hot fries, no extra charge.

Your choice of soft drinks or indulge and get an ice cream or shake.

Burgers come in special sizes, depending on your appetite: single (me), \$5.95; double (Mike), \$7.95; triple, \$9.25 or quad (who can eat that?) \$11.95. Add cheese, 24 cents more.

Kids don't like burgers? Well, then get them a kid grilled cheese – or you if that's what you want -- \$4.49 including fries and a small drink.

What more do you want? Atmosphere, not too much, but little eating area under former gas station awning keeps you dry if not warm. (Sometimes they throw up a wind shield.) Drive through open and



ready so you can eat in or take out. Crash Burger is not to be missed.

Crash Burger is located at 646 E Main St, Montrose, CO 81401, call (970) 249-0825.

Look for the crashed space ship on the roof. Open from 11am-8pm daily, except closed Sundays.

MONTROSE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL



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Early detection is the key to beating breast cancer.

Montrose Memorial Hospital's 3D mammography provides a wider view, greater depth and enhanced clarity of breast tissue – so you can be sure. Call 970.252.2540 to make an appointment today! Evening appointments and same-day biopsies are available as schedule permits.





NOTES FOR THE JOURNEY...

Exploring Classical Music With Rob Brethouwer

OPERA REMAINS A LIVING ART FORM, AS RELEVANT AS EVER

The articles to follow in the coming weeks will focus on contemporary opera. Far too often it is believed that all of opera is very old and that it is no longer relevant to modern society.

This is far from true and as will be demonstrated in weeks to come, many contemporary operas are in fact very much up to date with modern society and are pacing themselves right along with the age of technology. For our purposes at this moment, an overview of the operas that will be discussed will be provided so that if desired, readers can take some time to look at these works on their own and if they dare, listen to a bit so that when the discussion takes place things are fresh and ready to be remembered. As always, we are keeping with the main theme of this column, which is the exploration of classical music, chamber music, and opera.

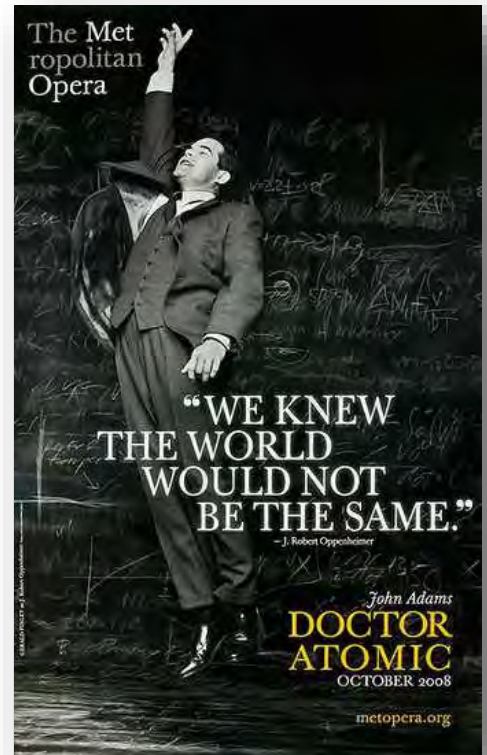
Two of the works to be discussed, *Candide* and *Doctor Atomic*, will be reviewed by this officer in late July after they have been seen live in performance at the Santa Fe Opera.

2018 is the 100-year celebration of the birth of Composer, Conductor, Lecturer/Educator, Accompanist, and Political Activist Leonard Bernstein. Having the distinction of being one of the best-known American Composers—if not the very best—Leonard Bernstein composed for everything from small ensembles all the way up to his work that is often seen in opera houses around the world, *Candide*. Loosely based on a novella by Voltaire, this work is better defined as an operetta and was first performed on Broadway in New York City in 1956. Contributors to the lyrics included Stephen Sondheim and Bernstein himself. Considered a box office failure in its first run, the work has gone through

multiple revisions through the years.

An even more contemporary work by an American Composer is the opera *Doctor Atomic* by John Adams. As mentioned in a prior column, this work had its premier with the San Francisco Opera in October 2005.

This work is mentioned once again because it can hardly be excluded when there is a discussion of contemporary opera and how these works are relevant to our day-to-day lives. The story of this opera focuses around the Manhattan Project (1943-45) based in Los Alamos, New Mexico, during the massive push towards development of the first nuclear bomb. The primary character, J. Robert Oppenheimer, shows how this effort was seen as a success for those looking to end the war, but had major ramifications in the lives and the mental well being of those involved in this project. Often, known as being pacifists, the Scientists involved dealt with the struggle of pursuing their research and being loyal citizens of this country, while at the same time making something that will ultimately kill hundreds of thousands of human beings in a time of war. Perhaps you are reading this on an iPhone or an iPad. The next contemporary opera to be discussed will be *The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs*. This fast-paced opera tells the story of Steve Jobs. He came from a humble immigrant background (Syrian), a precocious and curious child, growing into a scruffy nerf herder building a computer in his garage with his buddy Woz, and eventually into the massive Innovator that he became. Throw in his prickly and abrasive personality along with a sweet and wise Buddhist Monk, and you have a romp through time that grabs you and never lets you go. This opera had its world premier at the Santa



A Dr. Atomic poster. Courtesy image.

Fe Opera in 2017. Operas have always reflected the times in which they are composed, from the descent into Hades and the fear of not being chaste as presented in *L'Orfeo* in the early 17th century by Monteverdi; the focus on Italian politics in 19th century operas by Giuseppe Verdi; the morals or lack thereof in a Colorado mining town shown in an early 20th century opera by Giacomo Puccini; up to and including the development of nuclear weapons, and how tech visionaries can have such a huge impact on so many lives all over the world. Opera remains as relevant as it ever was, portraying various aspects of current American and world-wide culture. As long as there are topics that stir the minds and hearts of human beings, there will always be opera.

The Mirror:
Coverage with vision for the future.





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Un pequeño pinchazo en el dedo y algunas preguntas de salud:

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HDL= Este es el colesterol "bueno"

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TRI-COUNTY HEALTH NETWORK



Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes

On the road with poetry in New Mexico



Angelfire, New Mexico, sunset (courtesy photo).

LAND OF ENCHANTMENT ... I've always held a special fondness for New Mexico. It was the place where I was conceived. Back during World War II. My dad was stationed there, training as a bombardier for the Army Air Force ... However, when Vincenzo Bontempi got transferred to an air base in Lubbock, Texas, Blanche Isabella nee Wilson flew home. And had me at St. Luke's Hospital in San Francisco's Mission District – making me a fourth-generation San Franciscan and a seventh-generation Californian. Conceived in war but born in peace, three days after Japan surrendered ... I broke the Bay Area birth chain. My children were all born in Colorado, my chosen home. But, as chance would have it, my grand-daughter was born in the same hospital I was. And so the West Coast link continues ... I decided on a poetry tour after my poet buddy Bill Nevins arranged for me to feature at his reading series in Angelfire, a rural ski resort outside of Taos. I wrangled a couple more readings – one in Albuquerque and another in Santa Fe – and headed south on a winter poetry tour. Wisely, I left enough time for visiting my many friends to the south.

IGNACIO ... I took a little detour out of Durango to visit the Southern Ute Reservation and make a surprise call on the team from the Sun Ute Recreation Center that brought two van-loads of Ute kids to ski in Telluride a week or so ago. I got a warm welcome ... Virgil Morgan is the



Goodtimes reading at the Jules Playhouse in Albuquerque (photo by Jules Nyquist).

acting Recreation Manager, Shalaunda Roan is Recreation Coordinator, Kelsey Frost and Angelo Valdez are Recreation Specialists. We talked about the possibility of doing a summer program – getting Ute youth up to San Miguel County for disc golf, hiking, camping, fishing, star-gazing ... Having made a formal apology for the shameful events of 130 some years ago when the Utes were forcibly moved onto small reservations and settlers took over the land they'd occupied for hundreds of years, San Miguel County and the Telluride Institute have been trying to establish exchanges with our Tribal neighbors to work towards healing and education. And quite frankly, it's been inspiring to work with all three current Ute Tribes – the Southern Utes, the Ute Mountain Utes and the Northern Utes in Utah. Our hope is that we can move past the sad history of our collective pasts and become better friends and neighbors. And I think the changes at the Ute Indian Museum in Montrose reflect that same intent.

JOAN & MIKE LOGGHE ... Second stop was Española, a working class town north of New Mexico's more famous cities. There near the village of Puebla two of my favorite people live. Joan is the former poet laureate of Santa Fe, as her home is just over the border into Santa Fe County, and

this year she is the judge for our national poetry contest, the Fischer Prize – commemorating Mark and Elaine Fischer. We have been friends since 12989 [1989 CE], when she came to the Opera House for the first Talking Gourds Poetry Festival as one of the group billed as "The Wild Women of Santa Fe." She is a marvelous poet, teaches amazing workshops at Ghost Ranch near Abiquiu, and is a dear friend. I'm hoping we can find a time to read together. She has a dozen books to her credit, and is one of the principles in the publishing house, Tres Chicas Press. I count

her as one of the best poets writing in the Southwest ... Her husband is really the wild one. An *ayuhuascero* who's been to Peru many times, Miguelito has worked as one of my troubleshooters at the Telluride Mushroom Festival for a couple dozen years. He's a daring psychonaut, a philosopher of the entheogenic experience. A farm boy turned radical, Belgian-Italian carpetbagger and adopted son of the Rio Grande, he is also a dear friend ... Their kids are all grown with kids of their own, and they too have come to Shroomfest. Corinna the oldest was there with a lovely new partner, and it was great to catch up on everyone's lives, dreams, stories. Their youngest Hope called from Pittsburgh while I was visiting – she's just had her second child. Her husband Leland is studying the psychological and pharmacological effects of entheogens – or something like that. He's one of those deep thinkers who understands the importance of using plant allies and wants to make them more accessible to the society at large but in the context of healing more than recreation. It's great having young people with vision, who are unencumbered by the social biases of the past ... I left with an armload of gifts and books, like Arthur Chandler's *Old Tales of San Francisco* (Kendall-Hunt Publ., Iowa, 12977) and Tony Hoagland's *Recent*

Up Bear Creek by Art Goodtimes

Hoagland's *Recent Changes in the Vernacular* (Tres Chicas Press, 13017)

ANGELFIRE ... I had heard of this ski area, but didn't know the Moreno Valley. I was surprised at how large the development was, as well as the number of new buildings and luxury homes in the area. I learned it was a favorite of Texas folks ... The Sunset Grille, right next to the ski lifts, hosted the reading series. Although, sadly, they'd just lost their lease, and were going to be closing up in a few weeks. Bill had arranged to move the monthly reading to a local bar closer to the town. So, it was a last hurrah of sorts ... I was delighted to be sharing the featured spot with my old

friend Teresa Gallion, another long-time New Mexico poet. She is a deep fan of Rumi, and her poetry has all the power and grace of a person who contemplates and meditates, as well as writes ... The crowd was small, but engaged. Rocky Anderson, a local cowboy poet, joined us and read a fine piece. I love the way cowboy poetry (when done well) marries English formal verse's strict rhyme and meter with the West's American vernacular to create touching, often humorous, poems. Peggy Godfrey of the San Luis Valley is a master of this (a bit of the rural feminist, she likes to say, "cowboy" is a verb) ... Denise, E.J., and Graham all read their own original work at the open mic that

started the night ... Teresa followed with new poems and ones from her books *Contemplation in the High Desert: Quatrains inspired by the Poetry of Rumi* and *Chasing Light* (Inner Child Press, 13011 and 13013).

I love her kind energy as a writer and a reader ... I got to end the evening, kicking things off with my new memorized medley opening I want to use for readings from now on – a bit of Whitman set to Gregorian chant, my Tuna, Tuna, Tuna poem, a funny short piece on honesty, a sign language poem, and Skinning the Elk as finale.

It's a signature mini-performance I can pull out of any hat.

THE TALKING GOURD

Full Moon of the Dog Year 4716

Ball thrown to the sky,
the dog howls at the full moon
anxious for its fall
and to chase it wherever
to bring and lay at our feet.

Luna Llena del Año del Perro 4716

Pelota lanzada al cielo,
el perro aúlla a la luna plena
ansioso a que caiga
y seguirla a dondequiera
para traerla y ponerla a nuestros pies.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

SHARPEN YOUR STORY TELLING SKILLS @ WORKSHOP WITH ALISSA JOHNSON



Special to the Mirror

RIDGWAY-Visiting instructor Alissa Johnson (pictured at left) says, "There's nothing like a good story to create a real page-turner, whether you write short stories, essays, memoir or novels. But loving writing doesn't always mean you feel clear about how to create a story. In this workshop, we'll look at

how readers engage with story, what makes a story a story, and touch on elements that help bring one to life, including dialogue and description." Includes lecture, discussion, and time for writing. Alis-

sa Johnson is a nationally published and award-winning writer whose work has appeared in *The Wall Street Journal*, *Dirt Rag Magazine*, and the *Aifé* literary magazine among other publications. Her first short story publication is forthcoming in *The Master's Review*. She is associate editor at the *Crested Butte News* and her writing has won awards from the Colorado Press Association and FundsForWriters. She holds an MFA in Creative and Professional Writing from Western Connecticut State University (WCSU). Learn more at www.writingstrides.com. Join Weehawken March 30 at the Weehawken Ridgway (1075 Sherman St.) from 10 am to 1 pm.

The three-hour session includes lecture, discussion, and time for writing. Tuition for this class is \$35, laptops or writing pads are encouraged.

For more information, visit Weehawken Creative Arts at www.weehawkenarts.org or visit facebook at facebook.com/weehawkenarts - or call them at 970.318.0150.

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OLD TIME STRING MUSIC, SQUARE DANCING @ SHERBINO THEATER MARCH 17

Special to Art & Sol

RIDGWAY-Sherbino Theater and Rocky Mt. Farmers Union invite you to join in on a night of good old-fashioned square dancing on March 17 with Froze Blossom Special.

Mike Murray of Avalanche String Band provides the bass beats. Mark Toole of North Carolina who plays with Fifth Reel will be a strumming the old six string. Grady Harper and Jo Rochester of the New Frontier String Band will bring the fiddle and banjer from their travels of festivals including Clifftop, Weiser and CROMA. Tea Cake will call the dance and give you the chance to swing your honey. This concoction will have you kicking up your heels and do-si-doing all night. Who-ee!

Hosted by Rocky Mt. Farmers Union in coordination with the Sherbino Theater.

Saturday, March 17th. Doors @ 6 pm, beginner walk-thru @ 6:30 pm, music & dancing @ 7:00 pm. \$5 entry. For more information, go to sherbino.org or call 970-318-0150.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

WEEHAWKEN ANNOUNCES SUMMER-FALL INSTRUCTOR LINEUP



Courtesy image Claudia Hartley.

Special to Art & Sol

REGIONAL-Weehawken Creative Arts has announced their summer and fall visiting instructor lineup. Beginning in May, they have a number of visiting instructors offering one and multi-day workshops in a variety of arts mediums.

The first instructor is Alicia Bailey of Denver-based Abecedarian Artists Books. Alicia will be offering two one-day artful bookmaking classes in Ridgway. On May 5, she will present "Panorama Concertina." A panorama is any wide-angle view or representation of a physical space. This structure, designed by Hedi Kyle, allows for the depiction of space and movement over a series of panels that can turn as the book is read or displayed. It is a perfect structure for presenting landscapes or narratives. There are many variations of a panorama adapted for use in books that allow for the depiction of space and movement over a series of panels. One version is the panorama concertina, designed by Hedi Kyle. It is an accordion book with a series of floating panels. In this workshop you will each make a multi-panel model with a wrap-around cover. No experience necessary, this class has a \$60 tuition plus a materials fee of \$10 per student; this will be a 3-hour workshop. On May 6, she will

offer "Miniature Diorama Boxes." Learn to build and finish a small box filled with personal images and objects that are held in place to create a miniature diorama, protected with a fitted piece of plexiglass. After arranging and fastening selected treasures in the box, and fixing the plexiglass in place, the box will be mounted into a case with recessed label and ribbon closure. The case and box sides will be covered with book cloth. This class is suitable for all skill levels, ages 16 and old-

er. No experience required. Instructor provides all materials. This is a 1-day (6 working hours) workshop. Registered students will be contacted ahead of time with a list of optional supplies to bring to class. Registration is \$125 plus a \$20 materials fee per student.

On May 19 & 20, Lauren Mantecon of Santa Fe travels to instruct a weekend mixed media workshop, "Expressive Painting & Mixed Media Technique" in Ridgway. Lauren says of the class, "Intuition is the ability to grasp something immediately, without conscious reasoning. Intention has an aim, a plan. The spaces between are where the delicate balance between intuition and intention meet creating an individual flow of creative momentum. This space is not forced but cultivated.

We will explore our deep knowing and reservoir of images through guided imagery, meditation, and stilling the body. Through a series of gestural exercises and learned techniques, projects, and conversation we will practice finding and working the space between.

No experience necessary- just a curious mind." This class runs May 19-20 from 10 am to 4 pm at Weehawken Ridgway. Registrations for this class is \$215 plus a \$35

materials fee for glues, gesso, wax, basic colors acrylic, joint compound, and mediums provided by Lauren. Other materials will be provided by the student.

In July, Claudia Hartley joins us from Sedona, AZ for a three-week workshop, "Modernize Your Landscapes and Fall In Love with Acrylics," on the 20-22 in Ridgway.

Claudia invites you to paint "outside the box" by learning to abstract, finding positive and negative shapes, exaggerating color, and experimenting.

You will use her photos of scenes (8x10) the first day. After that it will be your choice: paint a still life, flowers, Room Interior, work from life, use a sketch.

NO Realism! Many complete an entire painting the first day, getting more experimental each day. You will have plenty of individual instruction for all levels of skill." Weehawken finishes the season with a weekend photography workshop with Michael E. Gordon, an award-winning fine art landscape photographer best known for his black and white Desert images which, says Broughton Quarterly, portray "stunning ethereal beauty from terrain where others see only a bleak landscape." A lifelong student of nature and wilderness, Michael's intimate relationship with the natural world results in quiet images of depth and discovery.

Michael offers "Creative Nature & Landscape Photography: Concept, Capture, Process" on Sept. 22 & 23 at various locations in Ouray County, with studio time at Weehawken Ridgway. Registration is \$295.

Students should save their spot with Weehawken Creative Arts at www.weehawkenarts.org or by calling 970.318.0150.

A minimum number of students must be met in advance in order to make the class a "go" so interested students should sign up at least four weeks prior to class start. More information can be found at www.weehawkenarts.org.

facebook.com/SherbinoTheater

For more information, visit
WWW.SHERBINO.ORG



Thursday
March 1

Friday
March 2

Saturday
March 3

Tuesday
March 6

Thursday
March 8

Friday
March 9

Sunday
March 11

Tuesday
March 13

Thursday
March 15

Friday
March 16

Saturday
March 17

Sunday
March 18

Tuesday
March 20

Thursday
March 22

Saturday
March 24

Thursday
March 29

Friday
March 30



OPEN BARD: LOCAL'S NIGHT AND POTLUCK!

Doors @ 6:00pm. Readings @ 6:30pm. \$8y Donation.

FOXFEATHER WITH THE BATTLEFIELD & THE HEARTSTRING HUNTERS

Doors @ 7 pm. Music @ 7:30. 3 BANDS! \$10 in advance @ sherbino.org or \$12 @ the door



Volkswagen Presents: Warren Miller's LINE OF DESCENT

Doors @ 6 pm. Movie @ 7pm. \$10 entry.

LATIN FEVER SALSA NIGHT

Doors and basic lesson @ 6:30. DANCING begins @ 7. \$8 entry. (Basic step salsa & cumbia dance)



SENISIM PASIN (CHANGE YOUR WAYS) A PNG TRIBAL FOUNDATION FILM

Entry by donation. Doors @ 6:30 pm, Movie @ 7:00pm, followed by Q&A.



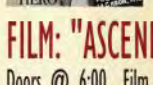
GYPSY JAZZ SOCIAL CLUB (PLAYING LE JAZZ HOT!)

Doors at 7:30pm. Music at 8:00pm. \$10 advance tickets online or \$12 at door.



AN ORDINARY HERO: THE TRUE STORY OF JOAN TRUMPAUER MULHOLLAND

Doors @ 5:00 pm. Movie @ 5:30pm. Entry by Donation.



FILM: "ASCENDING AFGHANISTAN: RISING WOMEN"

Doors @ 6:00. Film @ 6:30 pm. \$15 entry, benefiting the Ascend Program



SHERB NERDS Trivia Night

Doors and cash bar at 6:30pm. Trivia at 7:00pm. Suggested donation of \$5-\$10.



OPEN MIC NIGHT 5-9 pm, 2 monitors & 2 mics provided, \$ By Donation



SQUARE DANCE with Froze Blossom Special

Doors @ 6:00 pm. Beginner Walk-Thru @ 6:30 pm. Music & Dancing @ 7:00 pm. \$5 entry

HEARTBEAT: A CAPELLA BENEFIT CONCERT

Doors @ 3:30 pm. Concert @ 4:00 pm. \$8y Donation supporting Sherbino capital campaign



MOORS & MCCUMBER

Doors at 7:00pm. Music at 7:30pm. \$18 in advance online, \$22 at the door.



BAG IT - THE MOVIE

Doors at 5:00pm. Movie @ 6:30pm. \$ By Donation.



GAME CAFE NIGHT

Doors 5:30pm. Open Games from 6-9 pm. Entry by Donation.

Alpine Bank's FREE FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Free-Tured Film: COCO

Doors, concessions & bar @ 5:30pm. Movie @ 6:00pm. FREE!



BLUE SPECKLED FOX PRODUCTIONS & THE SHERBINO PRESENT

SMOOTH HOUND SMITH

Doors @ 7:30. Music @ 8:00. \$10 in advance. \$13 @ the door.



COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

GMUG WELCOMES NEW STAFF OFFICER



**GMUG Planning & Information Staff Officer
Shane Walker. Courtesy photo.**

Special to Art & Sol

DELTA-The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests announce the arrival of their new Planning and Information Staff Officer, Shane Walker. He joins the GMUG from the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland where he served as the District Ranger for the Douglas Ranger District, which under his leadership, was named the U.S. Forest Service Rocky Mountain Region – 2015 Ranger District of the Year.

Shane has 18 years of public service in the natural resource and environmental fields, working for Fairbanks North Star Borough's Parks and Recreation Department, the Alaska Department of Nature Resources' Office of Project Management and Permitting, the Bureau of Land Management-Alaska, and the Bridger-Teton and Bighorn National Forests. He possess extensive knowledge in oil, gas, land, and mineral development and management, along with a passion for collaborative work, integrity, and honesty.

"I am looking forward to the relationships that will come with this position," said Walker. "One of my priorities will be to encourage open discussion both internally and externally. Coordinating, cooperating, collaborating, and consulting with people for the purpose of conserving our national resources is important."

NATURAL GROCERS & CITY FARM TO HOST EASTER EGG HUNT 3/30



Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-On Friday, March 30th from 11-12:30 pm Natural Grocers with co-sponsor and vendor, City Farm will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt. Join us for samples, demos and a free lecture on "The Egg Came First" by Nutritional Health Coach, Charlie at 11:30 am. Bring your camera and snap a photo of your children with the Easter Bunny.

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AD RATES AND INFORMATION.**

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

HEAR ANDERSON EAST, J.S. ONDARA @ TELLURIDE'S CLUB RED 3/20

Special to Art & Sol

TELLURIDE-Beyond the Groove and Club Red are pleased to announce Nashville singer-songwriter Anderson East at Club Red on Sunday, March 18. Folk-blues singer [J.S. Ondara](#) will open the show.

[Anderson East](#) is the humble type -- the sort of man who chalks up his success to loads of good fortune. But the singer-songwriter has earned his accolades: one of music's most compelling young artists, East is an unflinching and inimitable talent. Best exemplified on his breakout 2015 debut album, *Delilah*, the Alabama-native wields an unwavering and potent, ever-husky voice. And as seen on standout tracks including "Satisfy Me" and "Devil In Me," he's able to effortlessly spin tales of tumult and triumph in equal measure.

That's, of course, to say nothing of the brute force with which the man performs — fiery and forceful, as much a wily preacher as a patient poet, East has become one of music's must-see live act.

Having recently completed a forthcoming new album with producer Dave Cobb at Nashville's famed RCA Studio A, and preparing to release its first single later this summer, East is hitting the road this summer with Chris Stapleton on the singer's "All-American Road Show." What NPR Music called a "...eclectic, fully formed debut album," *Delilah* was East's launching pad. But he's hardly slowed down since: over the previous two years, the gritty-blues and-soul-toasting singer toured relentlessly. In the process, via his sold out headline shows and from serving

as support for monumental artists including Sturgill Simpson and Jason Isbell, he's amassed a dedicated, organic fan base.

The show is open to all ages, with doors opening at 7:30 p.m. and the show starting at 8 p.m. Limited tickets available at \$25 for general admission.

Recently named by *Skiing Magazine* as one of ski country's best concert venues, Club Red aims to bring a wide variety of crowd-pleasing entertainers to Mountain Village.

With Telluride, Colorado serving as a hotbed for national touring acts, Club Red adds another layer as an intimate music venue where guests can get up close and personal with the musicians. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.clubredtelluride.com.

CREATE KILN-FORMED GLASS NIGHT LIGHTS WITH DIANE QUARLES

Special to the Mirror

MONTROSE-Weehawken Creative Arts will be offering "Kiln-Formed Glass Ornament Design & Production" with instructor Diane Quarles at her new Aspen Light Glass Studio location in Montrose. This is a one-day fused glass class where each student will design, build and prepare for firing two-glass night lights that will then be fused, slumped and mounted with lighting hardware.

Students will have access to a variety of glass styles, including frit (crushed glass) and powdered glass; transparent, opaque and dichroic glass; pre-cut shapes and characters; and stringers and noodle glass from which to experiment and create. Each glass assembly will be kiln-fired to create a single glass piece, then will be re-fired over a mold to create the night light shape. Lastly, the formed glass will be mounted to the lighting hardware to complete the creative process. "No glass experience required!" says Diane.

Diane Quarles is the owner of Aspen Glass Art Studio in Montrose and says of herself; "Each year on Easter Sunday, I would visit the First Presbyterian Church in Brenham, Texas with her grandparents. The church, built in the late 1800s, was simple and unsophisticated in its whitewashed clapboard siding and aged-oak pews, reminiscent of its early German heritage. In all its simplicity however, the church was always filled with a complex, heavenly light from the antique stained glass leaded windows. This childhood experience created a passion for manipulated light in glass that continues to influence my life's work today."

Diane Quarles' work can be found in galleries throughout the US. She has won several awards in glass, including first place in the blown/rolled glass category in the national Delphi Art Glass Festival (2011), Best in Glass at the Ridgway Rendezvous (2012) and second place in the Delphi Art Glass Festival in the kiln-formed

category (2015). Join Weehawken Creative Arts for "Kiln-Formed Glass Ornament Design & Production" on March 17 from 1-4 pm at the Aspen Light Glass Studio (21 N Junction Ave) in Montrose. Registration is \$50 plus a \$15 materials fee. Due to the instructive and interactive nature of this class, attendance is limited to 7 students. For more information or to save your spot and register in advance, head to Weehawken's website at www.weehawkenarts.org or call Weehawken at [970.318.0150](tel:970.318.0150).



Glass nightlight image courtesy Diane Quarles.

Hold the Date! Upcoming Business & Cultural Events

ONGOING-

FRIENDSHIP FORCE INTERNATIONAL, non-profit organization, was founded and introduced to the world at a ceremony held at the White House on March 1, 1977. FFI provides opportunities to explore new cultures by bringing people together at the personal level. Friendship Force of western Colorado's regular monthly meetings are scheduled for the 3rd Thursday of the month. Meeting location - Red Cross Training Center, 5th and Gunnison in Grand Junction, 6:15 p.m.

THE ALPINE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB meets every second Tuesday at St. Mary Catholic Church in the St Paul Room, 1855 St Mary's Drive, Montrose. The Public is welcome to attend. For more information, email alpinephotoclub@aol.com.

FREE JAM SESSION AND SING ALONG, Mondays from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Montrose Senior Center.

MONTROSE HISTORICAL MUSEUM-"Montrose County Historical Society Presents" is held at 7 pm on the first Wednesday of each month in the Pioneer Room of Friendship Hall, 1001 N. 2nd St. The public is invited to free programs based on topics of regional history. For more information please call 249-2085.

MONTROSE LIBRARY GARDEN SERIES-this free 8-session series meets Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8 p.m. March 13-May 1 at the Montrose Library Meeting Room. Topics will include: information sources, seeds, plants, trees, soils, water, and managing plant and animal life in your garden. Time will be available for questions and discussion. Sessions taught by Larry Wobeter, Dave Dearstyne and Reed Irwin. Call (970) 964-2547 with questions.

MONTHLY-

March 14-Turkuaz with Con Brio @ Club Red in Telluride. They've become one of Brooklyn's freshest exports - nine charismatic men and women brightly outfitted to have their colorful nature match their expressive voice. Turkuaz is a rock band at its core that blends soulful sounds with potent funk grooves. Since hitting the road in 2012, Turkuaz has released a handful of albums, canvassed the US more times over, and continue to gather devoted listeners along the way. Tickets start at \$25.

March 15--6:30 - 8:30 pm, --"Great Decisions" discussion series, Montrose Library Meeting Room. Topic: "US Global Engagement and the Military."

March 16--7 p.m. - Cashore Marionettes - Wright Opera House, 472 Main Street, Ouray. Tickets \$20 adults, \$5 students (18 years and under) available online at www.ocpag.org or at the door.

March 17-Sherbino Theater and Rocky Mt. Farmers Union invite you to join in on a night of good old-fashioned square dancing on March 17 with Froze Blossom Special. Doors @ 6 pm, beginner walk-thru @ 6:30 pm, music & dancing @ 7:00 pm. \$5 entry. For more information, go to sherbino.org or call 970-318-0150.

March 18-Westward Ho-A Musical American Journey from Kentucky to Colorado. Saddle on up and join the Montrose Community Band on Sunday, March 18th at 3 pm at the Montrose Pavilion for a free concert with a fun western theme. Dust off your boots and come ride off into the sunset with us. For more information visit www.montroseband.com or call 970-596-1188.

March 18-Anderson East with J.S. Ondara @ Club Red in Telluride. Anderson East is the humble type -- the sort of man who chalks up his success to loads of good fortune. But the singer-songwriter has earned his accolades: one of music's most compelling young artists, East is an unflinching and inimitable talent. Best exemplified on his breakout 2015 debut album, *Delilah*, the Alabama-native wields an unwavering and potent, ever-husky voice. And as seen on standout tracks including "Satisfy Me" and "Devil In Me," he's able to effortlessly spin tales of tumult and triumph in equal measure. That's, of course, to say nothing of the brute force with which the man performs -- fiery and forceful, as much a wily preacher as a patient poet. East has become one of music's must-see live act. Tickets start at \$25.

March 18-- Sunday Serenades: Montrose Regional Library. Noon: Shelley Warren, Flute, Elise Helmke Anderson, Harp. FREE, refreshments served.

March 22--6:30 - 8:30 pm, "Great Decisions" discussion series, Montrose Library Meeting Room. Topic: "South Africa's Fragile Democracy."

March 22--Carry On! Ridgway Reuses founders are hosting a screening of the award-winning environmental documentary *Bag It* at the Sherbino Theater on Thursday, March 22 at 6pm. Reusable Bags will be for sale. Thursday, March 22 @ the Sherbino Theater, Ridgway @ 6pm. Admission/ Suggested Donation: \$5. This event is open to the public.

March 23-24- Escape the Library! March 23, 6 & 7:30; March 24, 4, 5:30, & 7, Challenge your team of six players to solve clues and escape the locked room before your time runs out! Free, adults over 18 only. Call 970-964-2569 for reservations.

March 29--6:30 - 8:30 pm, "Great Decisions" discussion series, Montrose Library Meeting Room. Topic: "Global Health: Progress and Challenges."

March 30--Synthesis musicians create an engaging night of jazz music you've been waiting to hear, join us at THE Montrose Pavilion on March 30th at 7:30 pm! Tickets are available at tix.byu.edu (Scroll down to Synthesis). Cost is \$10/person plus one-time service charge.

March 30-On Friday, March 30th from 11-12:30 pm Natural Grocers with our co-sponsor and vendor, City Farm will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt. Join us for samples, demos and a free lecture on "The Egg Came First" by our Nutritional Health Coach, Charlie at 11:30 am. Bring your camera and snap a photo of your children with the Easter Bunny.

April 7- "The Bookcliff Chorus: Fifty Years Young" will take place at the Avalon Theater on Saturday, April 7, 2018 with performances at 2 and 7 PM. Tickets are \$18 for Adults and \$12 for Students, available at the Box Office. For details, call 970-257-SONG or check on Facebook--Bookcliff Barbershop Harmony Chorus or bookcliffchorus.wordpress.com/

April 7-Montrose Womens Club Flea Market, April 7th, 8 am-4 PM, Friendship Hall, Montrose County Fairgrounds; 100+ tables; antiques; coins; jewelry; handcrafted items; tools and more.; "Drawing for Charity." Free admission; Vendor spaces, contact Lexy at 970-275-3336.

April 11-Hopewest is hosting Hospice Foundation of America's 24th Annual Living with Grief Program. The program is free but registration is required to attend. Visit HopeWestCo.org to register.

April 29- Sunday Serenades: Montrose Regional Library. Noon: Debbie TenNapel, Violin, Martha Jacobs, Cello. FREE, refreshments served.

May 7--Montrose Giving Club meets at the Bridges Golf & Country Club of Montrose, 5:30 p.m. Open to ALL women who can afford the \$100 donation and a \$10 hospitality fee.

June 2- Montrose Boot-Stomp ~ An Old-Fashioned BBQ & Barn Dance: Entertainment by - Narrow Gauge ~ 6PM, Antler Ridge Weddings & Events, 72015 Kinikin Road, Montrose. Survivor & memorial sponsorships available. Please call Terri @ 970-901-6761 Proceeds ~ San Juan Healthcare Foundation ~ Caring Friends Fund.

Contact the Montrose Mirror:
970-275-0646

Editor@montrosemirror.com



Friends, family, and members of the staff at Homestead Assisted Living Center celebrated the 100th birthday of Mr. Ellis Cook Jr. (seated in black) last week on March 7.



The Telluride Institute presents the **TALKING GOURDS POETRY CLUB**

JENNIFER RANE HANCOCK

Tuesday, March 27th, 6 p.m.

Telluride Arts Office & Gallery

Telluride Institute, Between the Covers
Bookstore, Wilkinson Public Library, Telluride
Arts & Ah Haa School of the Arts

Photo by Carl Marcus